

THE
MONTHLY EPITOME,

For NOVEMBER 1799.

LXXV. *A Voyage to the East Indies*: containing an Account of the Manners, Customs, &c. of the Natives, with a geographical Description of the Country. Collected from Observations made during a Residence of thirteen Years, between 1776 and 1789, in Districts little frequented by the Europeans. By FRA PAOLINO DA SAN BARTOLOMEO, Member of the Academy of Velitri, and formerly Professor of the Oriental Languages in the Propaganda at Rome. With Notes and Illustrations, by JOHN REINHOLD FORSTER, L.L.D. Professor of Natural History in the University of Halle. Translated from the German by WILLIAM JOHNSON. 8vo. pp. 478. 8s. *Vernor and Hood, Cuttell.*

A Plate of Hieroglyphics.

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PREFACE.

"THE original of this work appeared at Rome in the year 1796. A German edition was published, in 1798, at Berlin, by the well-known Dr. John Reinhold Forster, with copious notes; and from the latter the English edition now offered to the public has been translated. The notes, a very few excepted, the translator has retained, and it is hoped they will be found useful to illustrate various parts of the text.

"The author, Fra Paolino da San Bartolomeo, a barefooted Carmelite, resided thirteen years in India, and therefore may be supposed to have been well acquainted with the subject on which he treats. He was born at Hof, in the Austrian dominions, in 1748; and, before he embraced the monastic life, was known by the name of John Philip Weldin. He was seven years professor of the Oriental languages in the Propaganda at Rome, and since his return from India has published several works relating to that country.

"In regard to the present work, Dr. Forster, in his preface to the German edition, says:

"It is the more valuable, as the author understood the Tamulic or common Malabar language; and, what is of more importance, was so well acquainted with the Sanscrit (a language exceedingly difficult), as to be able to write a grammar of it, which was published at Rome in 1790*. It appears from some of his quotations, that he understood also the English and French.

"His knowledge of the Indian languages has enabled him to rectify our orthography, in regard to the names of countries, cities, mountains, and rivers. The first European travellers who visited India were, for the most part, merchants, soldiers, or sailors; very few of whom were men of learning, or had enjoyed the advantage of a liberal education. These people

wrote down the names of places merely as they struck their ear, and for that reason different names have been given to the same place in books of travels, maps, and military journals. To this may be added, that the authors were sometimes Dutch, sometimes French, and sometimes English; consequently each followed a different orthography, which has rendered the confusion still greater. The author of the present work thought it of importance to correct these errors; a task for which he seems to have been well qualified by his knowledge of the Indian dialects. Thus, for example, he changes the common, but improper, appellation Coromandel into *Cidlamandala*, Pondichery into *Puduceri*, &c.; but the reader ought to remember, that, as the author wrote in Italian, his *c* before *e* and *i* must be pronounced *sch*, &c.

"As the changed orthography of the names of countries, cities, and rivers, rendered a geographical index in some measure necessary, one has been added at the end of the work.—Readers acquainted with the tedious labour required to form such a nomenclature, and who may have occasion to use it, will, no doubt, thank the translator for his trouble."

EXTRACTS.

SEASONS ON THE COASTS OF COROMANDEL AND MALABAR.

"ON the coast of *Cidlamandala* (Coromandel) the summer begins in June; but on the coast of Malabar it does not commence till October. During the latter month it is winter on the coast of *Cidlamandala*, whereas on the coast of Malabar it begins so early as the 15th of June. The one season therefore always commences on the east coast at the time when it ends on the western. When winter prevails on the coast of Malabar; when the mountains and vallies are shaken by tremendous claps of thunder, and awful lightning traverses the heavens in every direction, the sky is pure and serene on the coast of *Cidlamandala*: ships pursue their peaceful course; the inhabitants

* "*Sidharatham, seu Grammatica Sanscresdamica*. Romæ, 1790.—He is the author also of the following works: *Systema Brahmanicum*; and, *India Orientalis Christiana, continens Fundationes Ecclesiarum, Seriem Episcoporum, Missiones, Schismata, Persecutiones, Fides illustrata*. Romæ, 1794."

get in their rice harvest, and carry on trade with the various foreigners who in abundance frequent their shores. But when the wet season commences; when these districts are exposed, for three whole months, to storms and continual rains, hurricanes, and inundations, the coast of Malabar opens its ports to the navigator; secures to its inhabitants the advantages of trade, labour, and enjoyment; and from the end of October to the end of June presents a favourable sky, the serene aspect of which is never deformed by a single cloud. This regulation of nature appeared to Strabo, the geographer, altogether incredible; and he, therefore, abused those travellers who, on their return from India, asserted that in the course of the year, in that country, there were two summers and two winters. In this manner must the writers of travels often suffer by the ignorance of their readers *. 'When I called in the aid of commentators 'to illustrate such passages,' says Charadin, 'I every where observed the most palpable errors; for these people grope in the dark, and endeavour to 'explain every thing by conjecture'.' P. 4.

LIBERTY AND EQUALITY!

"WHEN the European inhabitants of Mahé (a town and colony belonging to the French) heard of the French revolution, they ran into the streets, bawling out in full jubilee, 'Liberty and Equality!' The Pagans and the Mahometans did the same, calling out, 'Liberty and Equality for us also! As 'we are now all free and equal,' added they, 'it is very evident that we can 'no longer acknowledge you for our 'masters.' This idea they indeed actually carried into execution, and expelled all the French from the town. The Carmelites had here a church, a catechumen house, and a missionary establishment." P. 143.

USEFUL PROPERTIES OF THE TENGA FRUIT.

"THAT fruit, called in the Malabar language *Tenga*, and in the Sam-

scrod *Sasyaga*, is a large nut produced by the real palm-tree, or *Tengamaram*. When the young trees are carefully watered, they bear a number of such nuts at the end of five years. This tree and its fruit supply almost every thing necessary for the wants of man. Small ships, houses, and roofs are formed of the trunk. Of the husk of the nut, ropes are made; and the shell is employed for dishes and spoons. If the fruit be not quite ripe, the milk in it affords an excellent, cooling, and very wholesome beverage. When the milk is converted into a kernel, an oil is expressed from it. The sap which flows from the branches, gives the agreeable well-tasted *Swa*; and, when distilled, becomes a kind of brandy. If it be placed in the sun, with the addition of a little *Nella*, it is converted into strong vinegar. Of the tender bark of the tree, a sort of coarse linen is prepared. If the kernel be bruised while young, a kind of sweet cream will be obtained; and the pith extracted from the upper young shoots of the tree is employed for preparing the so called *Aciara*, a kind of confection which is eaten with rice. The substance which remains after the oil has been expressed from the kernel, and which is known by the name of *Pinâca*, supplies food for swine, ducks, and poultry. In a word, I have reckoned up forty different properties which this tree possesses, and which are all useful to man." P. 162.

A REMARKABLE BIRD.

"ONE of the most remarkable birds in India is that called in the Malabar language *Olamâri*, in the Hinduvée *Bajâ*, and in the Samscrod *Berbera*. It is of the size of the European sparrow, or at least not much larger. This bird constructs its nest in a very curious manner, with the long fibres of plants, or dry grass; and suspends it by means of a kind of cord, nearly half an ell in length, from the extremity of an exceedingly slender branch of some tree, in order that it may be inaccessible to snakes and other animals which might

* "When Bougainville returned from his voyage round the world, some conceited Parisian ladies asked him how the Chinese women were dressed. On his replying that he had never been in that country, they were much astonished, and could not comprehend how it was possible to sail round the globe without being in China. Questions have been asked me and my son George, at which we could not help laughing, at least afterwards. F."

destroy its eggs or its young. This hanging nest, though agitated by the wind, is so strongly secured that it never sustains the least injury. The interior part of it consists of three neat apartments or divisions. The first, which forms the fore-part, is occupied by the male; the second is destined for the female; and the third contains the young. In the first apartment, where the male always keeps watch while the female is hatching the eggs, a little tough clay is found stuck against one side of it, and in the top of this clay a glow-worm, which serves to afford light in the night-time. These birds feed upon insects. Their head and feet are yellowish; the body is a dark yellow, and the breast is whitish. They chiefly frequent the coco-nut trees, in which I observed the greater part of their nests. I had five of them in a chest, which I was desirous of carrying with me to Europe; but as they occupied too much room, I was obliged to leave them *." P. 225.

CRABS POISONOUS IN OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER.

"CRABS, called in the Malabar language *Gnanda*, and in the Samscrit *Carchidaga*, are poisonous in October and November; for about that period the poisonous aquatic plants, such as the bluetithymal, or wolf's milk, grow up; and as these animals feed upon them, they are rendered so poisonous as to occasion death to those who eat them. It would be therefore proper, that in Malabar, as is the case in the Isle of France, a law were made to prohibit crabs being caught during these two months. M. Passavant the Danish factor at Calicut, Father Louis Maria à Jesu, now a bishop, and myself, once happened to be in company, and to eat of these animals. The other two gentlemen each ate two of them; but I contented myself with one. Three hours after M. Passavant became pale as death, and was seized with so violent a vomiting, that we absolutely thought he would have expired. Father Louis Maria was attacked with vertigo; all the veins in his body were swelled; his face, lips, and hands became blue, and he experienced an op-

pression at the heart which threatened to prove fatal. I immediately gave him some theriac, which the missionaries generally carry about with them, and sent for a barber to bleed him. In regard to myself, I was seized with a giddiness and vomiting, the latter of which I endeavoured to provoke. This accident, and others of the like kind, which frequently happen in this country, ought to serve as a caution to those who travel through Malabar, not to eat crabs there during the summer months. The case is the same with some kinds of fish." P. 241.

TRANSMIGRATION OF SOULS—SEA HEDGE-HOG—SEA-STAR.

"WHEN a Malabar king, prince, or great man dies, the *Mucaver* must for some time give over fishing; and, as a signal that it is then prohibited, branches of trees are always stuck up here and there on the banks of the rivers. They are generally suffered to remain eight or ten days, in order that the soul of the deceased during that time may choose for itself a new habitation in the body of some fish.

"The sea hedge-hog is found at Collam, and other places on the coast; but it is much larger than at the Cape of Good Hope and the Isle of France. These animals adhere so fast to the rocks and stones, that it is almost impossible to detach them. On one side they are covered with black sharp prickles, which serve them as a defence against their enemies; on the other is observed a round smooth aperture, which supplies the place of a mouth, and through which, by means of a few tender hollow fibres, they receive their nourishment. When they are sated with food, they attach themselves to the rocks, with these fibres, so fast, that a knife is necessary to disengage them. When they are desirous of removing from one place to another, they use their prickles instead of oars, and swim along the surface of the sea with great ease, so that they almost have the appearance of black balls.

"The sea-star is found in great abundance in the ocean to the east of Cochin. These animals, like other kinds of fish, form themselves into a

* "The *Bajà* or *Berbera* is the gross-beak of the Philippines (*Loxia Philippina* L.) already described by Brisson. A great many of these nests are brought to Europe. F."

fort of society; for it is very rare to see one of them alone. They swim in shoals at the surface of the water, and always direct their course according to the wind: their movement, however, is scarcely perceptible. They have a few small suckers, through which they receive their nourishment, and which they contract as soon as they are touched. Their stomach, from which the nourishing juices are conveyed to the smallest vessels, is probably in the centre of their body, where all their points are united. They have neither eyes nor mouth; but a most delicate sense of feeling, which supplies the place of sight." P. 242.

SNAKES.

"TEVI is the name of a beautiful, small, striped snake, which hurts nobody. When one of this kind is killed, a great many of the same species resort to the place, and remain in the neighbourhood till their dead companion is removed. However incredible this circumstance may appear, it is certain that an instance of it occurred at the seminary of *Ambalacanti*, in the presence of at least thirty persons. I have several times been on the point of killing one of these snakes; but the Christians, as well as Pagans, always requested me for Heaven's sake not to do it, else it would be impossible for them to remain in their houses, on account of the great number of snakes which would assemble from all quarters, and which they would not get rid of for several days. I shall leave it to naturalists to explain this singular phenomenon.

"*Malapamba*, or *Perimpamba*, the mountain-snake, found in the Gauts, is altogether of a dark-brown colour; from thirty to forty feet in length, and as thick as a fed ox. It has no teeth; but it devours dogs, deer, cows, and other animals, which it seizes by twisting itself round their bodies. The existence of this monstrous animal is beyond all doubt; for some of them

have been seen at *Vapur*, *Cagnarapalli*, and other places. Sometimes they are swept down from the mountains by the violence of the streams. I myself caused a snake of this kind to be caught, and sent it as a present to M. de l'Ormier. It was fifteen feet in length. If a person takes a spoonful of the fat of this snake, and drinks warm water afterwards, it expels the leprosy. I have in my possession a bottle filled with it.

"The *Irutalakuszali* is a snake with two heads, whatever Charleton and others may say to the contrary. In Portuguese it is called *Cobra de duas cabeças*, and in Latin the *Amphisbena*. M. Rosier, the commandant at Collam, showed me two snakes of this kind, which he preserved in a glass jar. I saw one of them also in the mountains of *Maleatur*. It is a palm or a palm and a half in length; has the colour of withered leaves; and does not, like other snakes, creep straight forwards, but always rears one of its heads, and makes an arch with its body when it moves. Its bite always occasions a tumour filled with venom; but the person acts very slowly, so that it is seldom or never too late to apply a remedy." P. 247.

EDUCATION IN MALABAR.

"THE education of youth in India is much simpler, and not near so expensive as in Europe. The children assemble half naked under the shade of a coconut tree; place themselves in rows on the ground, and trace out on the sand, with the fore finger of the right hand, the elements of their alphabet, and then smooth it with the left when they wish to trace out other characters. The writing-master, called *Agian*, or *Elumacien*, who stations himself opposite to his pupils, examines what they have done; points out their faults, and shows them how to correct them. At first, he attends them standing; but when the young people have acquired some readiness in writing, he places

* "The *Amphisbena* of the system has not two heads, but is of equal thickness at the head and tail; so that it appears as if it could advance both ways. There are, however, real two-headed snakes; at any rate, some of that kind have been seen in America. This monstrosity is perhaps transmitted by generation, as the *monstra per excessum* in the families of *Rube* and *Calleja*, whose descendants have more than five fingers and toes. It can be determined only by accurate anatomical and physiological examination, whether these two-headed snakes form a particular genus. F."

himself

himself cross-legged on a tiger's or deer's skin, or even on a mat made of the leaves of the coco-nut tree, or wild ananas, which is called *Kaida*, plaited together. This method of teaching writing was introduced into India two hundred years before the birth of Christ, according to the testimony of Megasthenes, and still continues to be practised. No people, perhaps, on earth have adhered so much to their ancient usages and customs as the Indians.

"A schoolmaster in Malabar receives every two months, from each of his pupils, for the instruction given them, two *Fanon* or *Panam*. Some do not pay in money, but give him a certain quantity of rice, so that this expense becomes very easy to the parents. There are some teachers who instruct children without any fee, and are paid by the overseers of the temple, or by the chief of the cast. When the pupils have made tolerable progress in writing, they are admitted into certain schools, called *Eutupalli*, where they begin to write on palm-leaves (*Panā*), which, when several of them are stitched together, and fastened between two boards, form a *Grantha*, that is, an Indian book. If such a book be written upon with an iron style, it is called *Granthavari*, or *Lakya*, that is, writing, to distinguish it from *Alakya*, which is something not written.

"When the *Guru*, or teacher, enters the school, he is always received with the utmost reverence and respect. His pupils must throw themselves down at full length before him; place their right hand on their mouth, and do not venture to speak a single word until he gives them express permission. Those who talk and prate contrary to the prohibition of their master are expelled the school, as boys who cannot restrain their tongue, and who are consequently unfit for the study of philosophy. By these means the preceptor always receives that respect which is due to him: the pupils are obedient, and seldom offend against rules which are so carefully inculcated." P. 261.

MEDICINE.

"THE Indians have made much more progress in botany than in mineralogy: because they prepare the greater part of their medicines from vegetables. This method corresponds very

exactly with the system of Hippocrates. As a proof, one needs only recur to the second book of that physician, *De Dieta*, where he treats of the powers and properties of vegetable and animal food, but passes over the mineral kingdom entirely. Medicines prepared from the last are for the most part, in India, attended with very dangerous consequences; because, in general, they are not only far less suited to human nature, but affect, in a very extraordinary manner, the weak bodies of the natives. The method and prescriptions of Van Swieten and Tissot are therefore almost impracticable in those climates. On the other hand, I know, from certain experience, that several physicians of Cochin, who followed the prescriptions of these two celebrated men, and ordered certain medicines in small doses, no longer employ them with confidence. The Indians never take an emetic or purgative without causing the physician to prescribe something for them, by which the too violent effects of the medicine may be checked. They abhor phlebotomy, and employ only cupping; but this even very seldom. They are accustomed also never to pay the physician until they are completely freed from their disease. This is an excellent method to guard against the ignorance and quackery of those pretenders who sometimes prolong a disease merely that they may extort more gold from their patients. When a Malabar physician fails of cure, the patient gives him a certain present, according to the trouble he has had; but he is under no obligation to pay him fully. In ancient times the medicines of the Indians consisted chiefly, according to the testimony of Strabo, in regularity, temperance, and the choice of food. This is exactly the doctrine of Hippocrates." P. 422.

ISLE OF FRANCE—IMMORALITY OF THE COLONISTS.

"THE European planters and merchants on this island maintain about 30,000 slaves, who cultivate the lands, and who are obliged to perform the principal labour in the towns and villages. These slaves consist of Caffres, Indians, and natives of Madagascar. Were it possible for them to be unanimous, they would not find it difficult, as they far exceed the Europeans in number,

number, to expel them entirely from the island; but as they belong to different tribes, they never can unite in one general plan; and to this circumstance the planters are indebted for their safety and the peaceable possession of their property. The laws of morality are violated here in the most flagrant manner: the various nations who are intermixed with each other, the state of licentiousness in which the colonists live, and the immodest conduct of the women, which sets all decency and restraint at defiance, might give travellers very just reason for calling the Isle of France *New Cythera*, or the *Island of Venus*. Besides, it is the seat of knavery and infidelity, with which almost all the French settled here are infected; for they acknowledge themselves, that, as soon as they pass the Cape of Good Hope, they renounce religion altogether, and employ their whole thoughts and attention on the acquirement of riches."—
P. 439.

LXXXVI. *The History and topographical Survey of the County of Kent.* Containing the ancient and present State of it, civil and ecclesiastical; collected from public Records, and other the best Authorities, both manuscript and printed; and illustrated with Maps, and Views of Antiquities, Seats of the Nobility and Gentry, &c. By EDWARD HASTED, of Canterbury, Esq. F. R. S. and S. A. Volume IV. (and last). Folio. pp. 788. Indexes pp. 46. 31. 108. Canterbury, printed by Simmons and Kirkby.

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✚ The map of the Hundreds of Worth, Newchurch, St. Martin's Pountney, Alocsbridge, and Langport, to be inserted in volume III.

ALPHABETICAL LIST OF PARISHES DESCRIBED IN THIS VOLUME.

BARFRISTON, alias Barfon—Betthanger—Bewsfeld, alias Whitfield—Birchington, in Thanet—Buckland, near Dover—Canterbury, City and County of; All Saints, St. Alphage, St. Andrew's, St. George's, St. Mary Bredin, St. Mary Bredman's, St. Mary Magdalen, St. Margaret's, St. Martin's, St. Mildred's, St. Mary Northgate, St. Paul's, St. Peter's, Holy Cross Westgate—Charlton, near Dover—Chillenden—Christ Church, Ville and Precinct of, Canterbury—Coldred—Deal, Town and Parish of—Denton—Dover, Town and Port of; St. James's, St. Mary's, the Virgin—Eaftry—Ewell—Eythorne—Guston—Ham—Hougham—Knolton—Langdon, West—Langdon, East—Mongeham, Great—Mongeham, Little—Norborne—Oxney, near Deal—Pilton—Ringwold—Ripple—River—Sandwich, Town and Port of; St. Clement's, St. Mary's, St. Peter's—Shebbertswell—Sholdon—Sutton, near Dover—Thanet, Island of; Birchington; Margate, alias St. John's; Minster; Monkton; St. Laurence's; St. Nicholas's; St. Pe-

ter's; Sarre, Ville of; Stonar—Tilmanstone—Walmer—Waldershare—West Cliffe—Whitfield, alias Bewsfeld—Wood, alias Woodchurch, in Thanet—Woodnesborough—Word.

EXTRACTS.

DEAL—CURIOUS PIECE OF ORD-NANCE.

“A VERY extraordinary piece of old ordnance was dragged out of the sea, in 1775, near the Goodwin Sands, by some fishermen, who were sweeping for anchors in the Gull-stream, being a part of the road leading into the Downs. From some of the ornaments, it may fairly be judged to have been cast probably about the year 1370, which is not long after the very first introduction of these formidable instruments of war into Europe. It manifestly belonged to the crown of Portugal, and was most probably lost and sunk about the time that John Duke of Lancaster asserted a claim to the Castilian dominions, yet it might possibly have been preserved till the time of the Spanish Armada, and have been sunk when that fleet was destroyed. It is seven feet ten inches long, and though of so large a size, was manifestly used as a swivel-gun, and was so contrived, as to be loaded not at the mouth, but (like a screw-barrel pistol) at the breach, by putting the powder and ball into the chamber, and then closing it up. From the situation, however, of its trunnions and *fulcrum*, it must have been extremely difficult to traverse, and the charging it must have been a very tedious operation, full as troublesome as the piece itself is unwieldy*.”
P. 169.

EASTRY—ANCIENT BURYING-GROUND.

“IN March 1792, Mr. Boteler, of this parish, discovered, on digging a cellar in the garden of a cottage belonging to him, situated eastward of the highway leading from Eaftry Cross to Butsole, an ancient burying-ground, used as such in the latter time of the Roman empire in Britain, most probably by the inhabitants of this parish, and the places contiguous to it. He

* “See an account of it by Mr. King, printed in the *Archæologia*, vol. v. p. 147, where an engraving of it is given.”

caused several graves to be opened, and found with the *skeletons, fibulae, beads, knives, umbones of shields, &c.* and in one a glass vessel. From other skeletons, which have been dug up in the gardens nearer the cros, he is of opinion, that they extended on the same side of the road up to the cros, the ground of which is now pretty much covered with houses; the heaps of earth or barrows, which formerly remained over them, have long since been levelled, by the great length of time, and the labour of the husbandman; the graves were very thick, in rows parallel to each other, in a direction from east to west." P. 225.

ISLAND OF THANET.

"A WEED begins to infest this island, which is not a little alarming to the farmers in it, as it is of the most prolific kind, and very difficult to be eradicated. It was produced a few years ago among some oats, which were imported in a vessel that was wrecked upon the coast here, and being washed by the tides along the shore, among the sea weeds, were carried away to different lands at the same time. It is of the class *tetradynamia*, and produces its seeds in a pod, flowering and seeding at the same time throughout the autumn. The inhabitants call it the *sink-weed*, from its fetid smell. It seems to be either the *brassica muralis* of Hudson or a variety from it." P. 296.

BIRCHINGTON.

"HENRY Crispe, in the year 1650, was appointed sheriff of this county; but on account of his great age and infirmities, his son was suffered to execute this office in his room.

"He was commonly called *Bonjour Crispe*, from his having been kept a prisoner in France for some time, and never learning more French than those words, at least he never would use any other whilst there. In August 1657, he was forcibly, in the night-time, taken away and carried from his seat of Quekes, by several persons, Englishmen and others, to Bruges in Flanders, and detained there as a prisoner, till the sum of 3000*l.* should be paid for his ransom. A few days after his arrival at Bruges, he sent to his nephew Thomas, who then lived near Quekes,

to come over to him, to assist him in his great exigencies and extremities. After some consultation together, he dispatched his nephew to England, to join his endeavours, with those of his son Sir Nicholas Crispe, for his ransom and enlargement, in which they found great difficulty, as Oliver Cromwell, who was then Protector, suspected the whole to be only a collusion to procure 3000*l.* for the use of King Charles II. then beyond the seas; and accordingly an order was made by the Protector in council, that Mr. Crispe should not be ransomed; upon which much difficulty arose in procuring a licence for it; Sir Nicholas died before it could be effected, and then the whole care of it devolved on Mr. Thomas Crispe, to obtain the licence and raise the money, which finding himself not able to do without the sale of some of his uncle's lands, he empowered him and his son-in-law, Robert Darell, for that purpose, who made every dispatch in it; but it was eight months before the ransom could be paid, and Mr. Crispe released out of prison; when he returned to England, and died at Quekes, on July 25, 1663.

"The account from which the above was taken, was found among the writings of the estate of Stonar, in this island, which formerly belonged to Mr. Henry Crispe, and was mortgaged for part of his ransom.

"The enterprise was contrived and executed by Captain Golding, of Ramsgate, who was a sanguine royalist, and had sometime taken refuge with King Charles II. in France. The party landed at Gore-end, near Birchington, and took Mr. Crispe out of his bed, without any resistance; though it appears that he had been for some time under apprehensions of such an attack, and had caused loopholes, for the discharge of muskets, to be made in different parts of the house, and had afforded a generous hospitality to such of his neighbours as would lodge in his house, to defend him; but all these precautions were at this time of no effect, so that they conveyed him, without any disturbance being made, in his own coach, to the sea side, where he was forced into an open boat, without one of his domestics being suffered to attend him, although that was earnestly requested as a favour. He was first conveyed to Ostend, and then to Bruges, both which places were then

in the power of Spain, which had been at war with England for more than two years. See Bibl. Topog. Brit. No. 45." P. 334.

ISLAND OF THANET—ST. PETER'S—
A MONSTROUS FISH.

"NEAR this place, on the 9th of July 1574, a monstrous fish shot himself on shore, on a little sand, now called Fishness, where, for want of water, it died next day; before which his roaring was heard above a mile; his length, says Kilburne, was twenty-two yards; the nether jaw opening twelve feet; one of his eyes was more than a cart and six horses could draw; a man stood upright in the place from whence his eye was taken; the thickness from his back to the top of his belly (which lay upwards) was fourteen feet; his tail of the same breadth; the distance between his eyes was twelve feet; three men stood upright in his mouth; some of his ribs were fourteen feet long; his tongue was fifteen feet long; his liver was two cart-loads, and a man might creep into his nostrils *. There were four whales, or monstrous large fish, towed ashore by the fishermen, on this island, a few years ago, one of which had been found floating on the sea, dead, and was brought to Broadstairs, and measured about sixty feet long, and thirty-eight feet round the middle; its forked tail was fifteen feet wide, its lower jaw nine feet long; it had two rows of teeth, twenty-two in each row, about two inches long; the upper jaw had no teeth, only holes for the lower ones to shut in. It had only one nostril. It had two gills, and the lower jaw shut in about three feet from the end of the nose. It is said this fish sold at Deal for twenty-two guineas." P. 364.

CANTERBURY—ARCHBISHOP RALPH
OR RODOLPH,

"HAVING sat in this see for the space of eight years and an half, died, worn out with a long sickness, on October 20, 1122, and was buried, according to Eadmer, in the middle of the body of this cathedral, or, according to others, in the fourth cross

wing. He is said, by William Malmfbury, who was well acquainted with him, to have been a man of eminent piety and learning, of a generous disposition and affable deportment, but too much addicted to jocularity for the dignity of his station, which gained him the name of *Nugax*, or *the Trifler*. Certainly neither his temper or state of health qualified him for so venerable and great a trust, for he was satirically jocose and ridiculously merry upon trifles, playing with men and words; and this most dangerous kind of mirth was attended with a peevish and morose temper, inasmuch that he was always vexed himself, or vexing others.

"Besides this, he seems to have added to these manners, those of haughtiness and insolence; an instance of which he showed most shamefully, at the solemn coronation of Adelicia, King Henry's Queen, when in the midst of his celebration of mass, perceiving the King present with his crown on, he imperiously commanded him to pull it off, and could hardly be persuaded by the nobles not to force it from the King's head, because neither he nor any of his predecessors had set it thereon. The archbishop, inflexible to their entreaties, took the crown off, the King humbly and meekly submitting; and immediately afterwards, all those who stood round and had seen what had passed, petitioning the archbishop to relent and place the crown on the King's head again, he condescendingly acquiesced in it, and immediately with uplifted hands crowned the King again himself." P. 693.

TAMARISK, DAMASK ROSE, &c.
WHEN IMPORTED INTO ENGLAND.

"ARCHBISHOP Grindal is said, when he returned from banishment, on the accession of Queen Elizabeth, to have first translated into this country the *tamarisk*, so useful in medicine against the diseases of the spleen.

"It has been observed, that the English have not been so grateful as the Romans, to celebrate those who have first imported lasting ornaments, as well as useful things, to their coun-

* "Kilburne, p. 215. A bone of this fish is still preserved at Little Nash, in St. John's parish, but is greatly impaired in size from being exposed so long to the air."

try; yet we have some authors not altogether silent in these vegetable acquisitions, from whom we learn, that Dr. Linacre first brought into this land that prince of flowers the *damask rose*; that the *perdigon plum*, with two kinds more, were first made natives of this soil by Thomas Lord Cromwell, when he returned from his travels; and the *apricot* by a priest named Wolf, who was gardener to King Henry VIII. In this reign also were first propagated among us *hops* and *artichokes*; and then were *cherry-orchards* first planted here, about Sittingborne, with a more improved kind of that fruit, brought from Flanders by one Hayns, another of that king's gardeners. What effect Camden's recommendation of *olive-trees* had with King Edward VI. I do not know; but in Queen Elizabeth's reign, besides the *tamarisk*, as above mentioned, after our opening a trade with Zant, the shrub which bears that excellent fruit the *currant*, was first transported hither, as was the *tulip-flower* in 1578." P. 743.

LXXVII. *Sonnini's Travels in Upper and Lower Egypt.* (Continued from p. 371.)

From the Quarto Edition.

CAIRO AND ITS INHABITANTS.

"TO imagine that Cairo, in Arabic *Masr*, bears any resemblance to the great cities of Europe, would be to form an erroneous idea. The houses have neither the form nor the elegance of ours; the streets are paved, very narrow, and not built in straight lines; the squares, which are large and irregular, without ornamental edifices, or any sort of monument to determine or embellish the centre, are, in general, vast basins of water, during the inundation of the Nile, and fields or gardens when the river has retired to its bed. Crowds of men, of various nations, hurry about and press through the streets, disputing the way with the horse of the Mamaluk, the mule of the lawyer, the numerous camels which supply the place of carriages, and the asses, which are the animals most commonly used for riding.

"This city, which is of a greater length than breadth, covers a space of about three leagues*. It was inhabited by Turks, Mamaliks, Greeks, Syrians, Arabs, Copts, Moors, Jews, and a few Europeans; and its population might be estimated at four hundred thousand souls. Inhabitants of a different kind had likewise established their abode in the midst of this confused assemblage of various nations. The terraced roofs of the houses were covered with kites and crows, which lived there in perfect security, and mingled their sharp cries and raucous croakings with the tumult of a restless and noisy populace. The disgusting vulture, the *vultur percnopterus*† of naturalists, the *al bobas* of the Turks, the *Pharaoh's ben* of the Europeans, augmented this singular and dismal society. Feeding only on reptiles and offal, these filthy birds are, fortunately, too dastardly to attack others of a more interesting nature. The plaintive and amorous turtle had no greater cause to dread the talons of the vulture than the violence of man, but entered the houses of the inhabitants, giving them, by a display of domestic cares and affections, practical, though unprofitable, lessons of love and tenderness.

"The splendour and profusion of luxury was contrasted with the rags and nakedness of misery; the extreme opulence of the rulers with the frightful poverty of the most numerous class. The riches that commerce bestowed on the intermediate order of people were either buried, or carefully concealed; those who had acquired wealth durst not enjoy it, but in a clandestine manner, from the apprehension of exciting the unrestrained covetousness of power, and of exposing themselves to the extortions which are sanctioned by a barbarous government, under the name of *awanes*, and which, in spite of the most mysterious precautions, they could not always contrive to avoid.

"However brilliant might be the exterior appearance of those in power, they were not the less ignorant and savage; the gub of luxury was no less the cloak of the most complete barbarism; and if this appeared still more hideous and ferocious in a populace very prone to mischief, it was only because it was here exposed to full

* "The author, probably, means three leagues in circumference."

† "The Egyptian aquiline vulture."

view, and that the eye was not dazzled by the delusive lustre of magnificence. At Cairo a few arts were exercised by foreigners; mechanical trades were far from having attained any degree of perfection; and the sciences were there altogether unknown. The two extremes are in many points very nearly connected. The Bey and the meanest individual are equally fanatical, superstitious, and illiterate. To be able to read and write were reckoned great accomplishments, and, with arithmetic, were confined to merchants and men of business. On the other hand, the Mahometan priests, buried in the gloomy labyrinth of scholastic theology, were endeavouring to understand and comment upon the reveries of the Koran. The cultivation of the sciences in the capital of Egypt did not extend beyond these limits; and any attempt to enlarge them would have been not only a fruitless, but a dangerous enterprise. To possess a greater share of information would have been a crime. Knowledge would have been stifled in the bud, never again to shoot forth, had not the French undertaken to release it from its confinement, and to favour its expansion; for, according to the philosophic reflection of Volney, when knowledge tends to nothing, no exertion is made to acquire it, and the mind remains in a state of barbarous ignorance.

"No where, in fact, could the people be more barbarous than at Cairo. Foreigners, persecuted, and even personally ill treated, under the most frivolous pretences, lived there in perpetual fear. The French had established several mercantile houses, and occupied a small enclosed quarter, which was shut up by a large gate, guarded by a few janizaries. I shall observe by the way, that the whole city of Cairo was divided in like manner into separate quarters. The Europeans denominated these divisions or enclosures *countries*, and that in which the French were confined, and where they were more than once besieged, was called the *country of the Franks*. Here our countrymen, remote from all assistance, and every mean of protection, passed their days in a state of continual inquietude. The temporary satisfaction resulting from the success of their commercial speculations, was suddenly checked by the invariable prospect of an approaching *awanie*;

and the sums or presents with which they were compelled to purchase an insecure tranquillity, owing to the almost daily changes among the officers of the government, greatly diminished the profits, which, although immense on certain occasions, ultimately became very inconsiderable, being frequently reduced by a ruinous multiplicity of incidental circumstances. Confined to their *country*, these merchants, continually a prey to anxiety, and too often not without reason, a striking example of what the love of gain can produce, were obliged to wear the oriental habit. Woe to the European who ventured to appear in the streets in the dress of his own country! He would soon have fallen a victim to his imprudence, and would infallibly have been knocked down or murdered.

"It was not enough for them to be clothed in the long garments of the East, it was also necessary that some part of their dress should be a distinguishing mark, or, to speak more correctly, the badge of contempt and proscription. The head-dress of the Europeans was a *talpack*, a sort of high hairy cap, peculiarly assigned to the *Franks*. For some time past the more enterprising English had introduced among them the *fesse*, or head-dress of the Druses, consisting of a large piece of striped silk of different colours, decorated with fringe, which is rolled round the head in the form of a turban. The French, however, had not dared to adopt this innovation, which, by giving them a nearer resemblance to the other people of the East, would have rendered less conspicuous the mark of infamy with which the most savage tyranny had debased them, and by which they were exposed to inevitable insults. Another indispensable precaution was, not to wear garments of green, or to have that colour in any part of their dress. This would have been a criminal profanation, the punishment of which would have been both prompt and terrible. Green, which was the favourite colour of Mahomet, is still reserved exclusively for his numerous descendants, and for those who, by frequent pilgrimages to the tomb of the Prophet, have deserved to be ranked among his chosen disciples.

"In the few excursions which our merchants made out of their *country*, mounted upon asses, fear was ever at their

their back. They were under the necessity of paying particular attention to persons who were either before or behind them. If a Mamalûk, a priest, or a man in office, appeared, they made way, dismounted, placed their right hand upon their breast, as a mark of respect, and durst not proceed on their way till the exacting and haughty Mussulman had passed on, and then only to reappear, in a few moments, the same irksome ceremony. When from absence of mind they chanced to neglect these abject duties of slavery, a very inhuman method was employed to bring the performance of them to their recollection. A class of domestics, called *cavouafs*, armed with great sticks, six feet in length, and clad in a long black robe, with the sleeves tucked up under the arm-pits, by means of a cord crossing on the back, attended on foot the men in power, and with heavy blows reminded the Franks of their inattention. Of two French merchants with whom I was acquainted at Cairo, the one had his leg and the other his neck broken, in consequence of an omission of this tyrannical *étiquette*.

"Such being the alarms and agonizing fears which almost incessantly succeeded each other, an idea may be formed of the disagreeable and dangerous situation of Europeans resident at Cairo, as well as of the baneful and shocking character of the government. To a foreigner it was, in reality, the abode of desolation, dread, and danger; whence Hasselquitz, with equal truth and shrewdness, observed, that whatever crime a man might have committed, a temporary residence at Cairo would be a sufficient expiation *." P. 419.

From the *Osiryo Edition*.

LADIES TAKING AN AIRING.

"I ONCE happened to meet the whole *harem* of a Bey taking an airing in the environs of Cairo. An equivocal figure, an eunuch with a mean and ferocious countenance, preceded the ladies on a fine horse, covered with gold, silver, and embroidery. The ladies were mounted on asses of the highest price. The bridles of these animals glittered with silver and gold,

and a magnificent piece of tapestry covering the saddle and crupper, reached down to the ground. It is to be presumed, that the ladies were not deficient in charms; but they were masked with thick veils, and bundled up, as it were, in pieces of stuffs, which did not allow either the face or even figure to be seen, and exhibited nothing but a shapeless mass. Such meetings had nothing in them very pleasant to an European: he was not only obliged to alight in token of respect, but he must also take care to avoid, I will not say looking the ladies in the face, for this was invisible, but even looking at them; the most he could do being to eye them askance as they passed. If he ventured beyond this, it would have afforded a pretence for an *avanie*, or been attended with consequences still worse." Vol. ii. p. 308.

CURIOUS MANNER OF SETTING FRACTURED LIMBS.

"THE second in command at Miniet having heard it said that I was, or that I ought to be a physician, desired me to be called in. He had broken his leg three days before. A Copht had set it again, but he had treated his patient in a truly curious manner. He was laid on the earth, without either mattresses, mat, or carpet, but on a bed of sand. His thigh and leg were stretched out and fastened between stakes driven into the earth, which supported likewise a brick wall, erected on each side, so that the piece of mason-work contained the fractured limb, till the cure was perfectly completed. In order to hasten the knitting of the bone, the surgeon had composed a kind of plaster, with earth, oil, and the white of an egg; and this he spread over the limb every day." Vol. iii. p. 39.

PRACTICE OF PHYSIC IN EGYPT.

"THE science of physic, in these countries, is practised in quite a different manner from that in use amongst us; and a medical professor, the most approved by the most celebrated of the faculty, would pass here for a block-head: he would even find himself very

* "Lettre à Linnæus, datée du Caire, le 7 Septembre 1750, et insérée dans la traduction du Voyage au Levant d'Hasselquitz, part ii. p. 154."

much embarrassed. In truth, what could he say to a patient who would only present him his pulse to feel, who would not reply to any one of his questions, and who would refuse to point out what part of his body he felt out of order? If the skillful physician should appear to hesitate, upon the mere beating of the artery, respecting the nature of a disease; if he should allow himself to interrogate the sick man; if he attempted to enter into fine and long reasonings, sometimes as obscure to him who listened, as to him who utters them, there is no room to doubt he would be rejected as a man destitute of knowledge, unworthy of confidence, or of the name of a physician. What would become of him, if, steadfast in the principles and in the practice of his art, he were to prescribe some of those remedies so much prized in Europe, and which are not taken in by the mouth? He would be attacked in the most violent manner, and he might esteem himself happy, if, in his endeavours to escape, he came off with his life. The Egyptians, as well as the Turks, hold remedies of this sort in abomination, and a proposal to make use of them is, in their eyes, an insult of the most serious kind. I never can forget the adventure which befel a French surgeon, belonging to a vessel which anchored in one of the ports of Caranania. The Turkish Aga, commander in that place, called him in. He suffered, he told him, a very severe pain in his head. The surgeon was inconsiderate enough to prescribe for him that which a physician in this country must not presume to mention. On a sudden the Mussalman was in a fury, that in order to cure a complaint in the head, an application was to be made to a part diametrically opposite; he drew out his sabre, arose from his divan, loaded the Frenchman with imprecations, and would have struck him with his scymitar, if he had not found means to evade the blow." *Vol. iii. p. 36.*

"If the physician has the misfortune to be called in by a man in power, that which would be in our country a source of rejoicing, of importance, and of riches, becomes there a source of perpetual terror and danger. He should diligently endeavour to shun an honour so perilous; but if he cannot escape it, he must either cure his too much exacting patient, or lay his ac-

count with dying himself. A most cruel alternative undoubtedly, but which renders the trade of quackery very rare here, and so common in other countries, where they are allowed to kill with the most perfect resignation. Does a remedy given to one of these same powerful men prove trouble, some to him; the physician is ordered in: he is obliged to remain during the operation of the medicine; he is informed that he must answer with his head for any unpleasant termination. In the moments of pain, looks of fury are darted at him, and the wretched physician, more disordered than the sick man himself, awaits, in mortal agonies, the issue of the operation of a medicine, which his conjectural skill could not permit him to assert would be successful in its effects." *Vol. iii. p. 39.*

"The Kiafchef one day sent and requested me to come to his house: he was in his hall of state. Twenty other officers of the Mamelucs were ranged on each side of him, on the floor of his divan, and all of them, or I deceived myself, appeared to enjoy perfect health. When I was introduced, the Kiafchef announced that I was the physician of Mourat Bey and of Ismaïl-Abou-Ali; that it was necessary to make trial of the whole extent of my knowledge, and that, moreover, they might speak with perfect freedom before me, for I did not understand Arabic. He began by declaring, that being in the habit of losing some blood once every year, he had for the first time neglected that precaution, and that he was disordered in consequence of it. His next neighbour said, that a sudden cold had seized him, from having passed the night in a boat, and that it occasioned him great pain. Another was choked with bile. They all explained, in a high tone of voice, and in their own way, the real or imaginary cause of their diseases, that each of them might be in a condition to judge if my science could enable me to discover, or rather to divine them.

"The Kiafchef made me approach him, and held out his wrist to me: he waited till I pronounced my opinion, with the impatience of curiosity. I gave myself the air of meditating upon it for some portion of time before I pronounced the oracle; I then informed the Kiafchef, by the interpreter, that it was necessary he should be bled.

I assured

I assured his neighbour that his dreadful pains were the consequence of a cold which he had caught some little time before. I advised the third to get rid of the bile which choked him. At last, when I had made the tour of the circle and of wrists, each one received what he conceived to be the most convincing proof of my incomparable skill. The admiration which it excited was unanimous. Every fist shut, and closely clenched, by a little perpendicular motion put forward from the body, the sign of applause among the Turks, testified the general approbation; and elogiums, short among people frugal of their words, but very expressive, were repeated by turns. A success so brilliant had greatly enhanced my medical reputation, and spread the fame of my wonderful knowledge all over Siour and its environs." *Vol. iii. p. 61.*

(To be concluded in our next.)

LXXVIII. *Travels through the United States of North America, the Country of the Iroquois, and Upper Canada, in the Years 1795, 1796, and 1797; with an authentic Account of Lower Canada.* By the DUKE DE LA ROCHEFOUCAULT LIANCOURT. Vol. II. 4to. pp. 686. With Maps of the northern and southern Provinces of the United States. 11. 7s. *Philips, Hurst.*

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EXTRACTS.

NORFOLK.

"AT the close of the year eighty-three there were not yet twelve houses rebuilt in Norfolk: at present the number is between seven and eight hundred. It is one of the ugliest, most irregular, and most filthy towns that can any where be found. The houses are low and unsightly, almost all constructed of wood, and erected without any

any attention to make them in a line with each other; not twenty of them are built of brick. The streets are unpaved: the town is surrounded by swamps: the nastiness and stench which prevail in it are excessive, and add to the natural insalubrity of the situation, and of the climate, which is extremely hot. The magistrates, it is said, have sometimes attempted to introduce into the place a greater degree of order, and especially of cleanliness: but these regulations have not been attended to; and nobody is any longer willing to act as magistrate.

"From these concurrent sources of unhealthiness it results that diseases are habitual at Norfolk in summer and autumn, and that malignant epidemics are there frequent. Last year the yellow fever is said to have carried off there five hundred persons, from a population of four thousand. Three hundred died at the time the distemper prevailed; the others fell victims to its consequences. The inhabitants of Norfolk, even those among them who are the most opulent, fancy that the use of wine and strong liquors furnishes them with a preservative against the insalubrity of the climate; and they make liberal use of the remedy. Previous to the war, the town is said to have contained eight thousand inhabitants.

"Norfolk carries on a considerable trade with Europe, the Antilles, and the northern states. Her exports are wheat, flour, Indian corn, timber of every kind, particularly planks, staves, and shingles, salt-meat and fish, iron, lead, flax-seed, tobacco, tar, turpentine, hemp. All these articles are the produce of Virginia, or of North Carolina, which latter state, having no sea-ports, or none that are good, makes her exportations principally through those of Virginia.

"Norfolk is the only port for the southern part of this extensive state: for, as no vessels above the burden of a hundred or a hundred and twenty tons can go up to Peterburg or Richmond, the produce of the back country which is brought to those places by land, is for the most part sent down in lighters to Norfolk, whence it is exported. Thus, this port almost singly carries on all the commerce of that part of Virginia which lies south of the Rappahannock, and of North Carolina, far beyond the Roanoke.

"They are at present forming a

canal, which, passing through the Dismal Swamp, is to unite the waters of the south branch of Elizabeth River, or rather of Dup Creek, which falls into it, with Albemarle Sound, by the river Pamlico, and which will thus considerably shorten and facilitate the communication between North Carolina and Norfolk. This canal, to which the two legislatures of North Carolina and Virginia have severally given their sanction, is carried on by subscription: it is three years since it was begun; and in three years more it is expected to be finished. It is to be twenty-eight miles in length, and to run through a soil which is said to be very favourable for the purpose, and easily worked. Five miles are already dug on the Virginia side, which I examined with some care, and thought very well executed: the same length is also dug on the side of North Carolina. The Dismal Swamp has less solidity than any other which I have ever yet seen: but the earth, which is dug for the passage of the canal, hardens in the air, and makes an excellent dike.

"What must appear very surprising, is, that, for this canal, which already seems in such a state of forwardness, no levels have been taken. It is not yet known what number of locks may be necessary, and even whether any will be requisite: consequently it is impossible to ascertain what may be the expense of completing it, or even whether the success of the undertaking can be depended on. It is thus almost all the public works are carried on in America, where there is a total want of men of talents in the arts, and where so many able men, who are perhaps at this moment unemployed in Europe, might to a certainty make their fortunes at the same time that they were rendering essential service to the country."—*P. 6.*

GAMING—INOCULATION.

"GAMING is the ruling passion of the Virginians: at pharo, dice, billiards, at every imaginable game of hazard, they lose considerable sums. Gaming-tables are publicly kept in almost every town, and particularly at Richmond. Yet a law of the state, enacted no longer ago than in December 1792, expressly prohibits all games of hazard, all wagers at horse-races or cock-

cock-fights, of which the Virginians are passionately fond—forbids the losing of more than twenty dollars at cards within four and twenty hours—places all the holders of banks on the footing of vagabonds—orders the justices of the peace, on the slightest information, to enter the places where they are held, to break the tables, seize the money, &c. &c. Nevertheless, to the present hour, the greater number of those who enacted that law—of the present legislators, the justices of the peace, and the other magistrates—are assiduous in their attendance at those seats of gambling. The bank-holders are every where received and acknowledged as 'gentlemen;' and their profession is envied, as being a very lucrative one. The part of this law which is said to be the most punctually executed is that which cancels the debts contracted at the gaming-table, and prohibits the payment of them.

"It is not uncommon to witness scenes of bloodshed at these gaming-houses. Since my arrival here, a young man, of a family of consequence in Virginia, fancying, in his impatient heat at a billiard-party, that he had reason to be dissatisfied with the behaviour of a marker whom he thought deficient in due respect to him,—after discharging a volley of abuse on the man, who with much difficulty bore it—thrust him through the body with a kind of cutlafs, which he wore by his side. The marker did not die in consequence of the wound: but, even if he had, the young man would have equally escaped prosecution. The latter has quitted the town for a few days, and will shortly reappear, and resume his usual pursuits, as if he had been absent only on account of ill health; although nobody denies the commission of that public act, or attempts to palliate it.

"The law against inoculation is more rigidly enforced. It prohibits every person from having himself or any of his family inoculated without permission obtained from all the justices of the county, who, on his petition, are to assemble, and inquire into the motives of his request, its necessity, its propriety. If they acquiesce, their permission, which is to be given in writing, is still of no avail: that of all the neighbours for two miles round is moreover required; and the refusal of a single one prevents the inoculation.

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Any physician who should presume to inoculate without these precautions, would be punished by a fine of ten thousand dollars. Whoever is accidentally attacked with the small-pox is carried to a lonely house in the middle of the woods, and there he receives medical assistance. If the village, the town, the district, to which he belongs, catch the infection, these places are cut off from all communication with the rest of the country, and are permitted to have recourse to inoculation: otherwise it is never allowed; for it is easy to perceive that the facility of obtaining permission for the purpose by the unanimous vote of the magistrates of the county and the general consent of the neighbours, in a country where prejudices receive such additional strength from the law, is a mere illusion.

"People are often heard to murmur against this absurd law; yet it is punctually obeyed: and nobody can allege as a pretext for this prejudice, that the Virginians are afraid of 'tempting God,' as was the cant of our priests in France, who, in this instance as in many others, have done all the mischief in their power. Those who are asked a reason for such a regulation adduce the fear of propagating a dangerous disease, with which they affect that Virginia has never been otherwise than partially and accidentally infected. They repeat the assertions which in Europe had long proved a bar to the extension of that admirable discovery. They say that the practice of inoculation, by rendering the disease more common, increases the number of its victims far beyond what nature intended; that inoculation is itself full of dangers; that the attendant expenses, which are considerable, do not lie within the ability of the poor (for, in Virginia, as elsewhere, some popular reason must be given), &c. &c. &c. One is astonished to hear from the mouths of enlightened men these arguments, which the old women of Europe have long since ceased to repeat. Population does not suffer a greater decrease in Pennsylvania or the other American states where inoculation is permitted, than in Virginia, where it is prohibited: on the contrary, it daily increases. This entire isolation of the place where the small-pox breaks out, such as the laws of Virginia prescribe, cannot be carried into effect with all the condi-

tions necessary to render it salutary. May not the infection be conveyed by the physicians, whom the law does not subject to quarantine? And might not the necessary expenses of inoculation, which are known to be so moderate, be confined by the provident attention of government, to a sum which no family should feel burdensome? To all these palpable truths no solid answer is given: yet the advocates of inoculation are far from having any hope of being able to effect an alteration in the law." P. 39.

KATSKILL—A REMARKABLE PHENOMENON.

"THERE has occurred this year, on a part of his (Mr. Bogardus's) estate, a pretty remarkable phenomenon. All this tract of country is a succession of little hills, or rather small elevations, detached from each other, and only connected a little at the bases. One of those hills, the nearest to Katiskill-creek, and elevated about a hundred feet above the level of the creek, suddenly suffered a sinking of more than one half of its declivity. It might have measured about a hundred and fifty feet from its summit to the extremity of its base, following the line of inclination. A breadth of about eighty fathoms fell in, beginning at about three or four fathoms from the top. The sunken part gave way all on a sudden, and fell so perpendicularly, that a flock of sheep, feeding on the spot, went down with it without being overturned. The trunks of trees that remained on it in a half-rotten state were neither unrooted nor even inclined from their former direction, and now stand at the bottom of this chasm of above four acres in extent, in the same perpendicular position, and on the same soil. However, as there was not sufficient space for all this body of earth which before had lain in a slope, to place itself horizontally between the two parts of the hill that have not quitted their station, some parts are cracked, and, as it were, furrowed. But a more striking circumstance is, that the lower part of the hill, which has preserved its former shape, has been pushed and thrown forward by the sinking part making itself room—that its base has advanced five or six fathoms beyond a small rivulet, which before flowed at the distance of above

ten fathoms from it—and that it has even entirely stopped the course of its stream. The greatest elevation of the chasm is about fifty or sixty feet: in its sides it has discovered a blue earth, exhibiting all the characteristics of marl, and which, from the different experiments that Mr. Bogardus has made with it in several parts of his estate, seems to possess all its virtues. In some of the strata of this marl is found sulphat of lime in minute crystals.

"It is not known what may have been the cause of this event, which the people here attribute to the operation of water, without well knowing why; for the inhabitants of Katiskill are neither deep read, nor versed in natural philosophy, nor addicted to observation. This sinking took place on the first of June of the present year, unattended by any noise, at least by any that was sufficiently loud to be heard either at Mr. Bogardus's house, which is but three hundred fathoms distant from the spot, or in the town, which is separated from it only by the narrow stream of the creek." P. 227.

CONFLAGRATION IN THE WOODS.

"FROM our windows we discover, though above seven miles distant, the light of a conflagration in the woods, which has already lasted eight days. Such accidents are very frequent in the clearing of lands by the aid of fire. The slightest inattention suffers the blaze to spread beyond the intended bounds: in which case it is impossible to extinguish it, especially at this time, when the drought and the falling of the leaves furnish it with the means of rapidly extending its ravages. It also frequently happens that conflagrations are caused in the woods by the hunters, who, for the purpose of more certainly killing the deer, surround with fire the places where they suppose them to be. Some of these lines of fire are several miles in circumference: their breadth is inconsiderable; for, however narrow they may be, the deer never cross them. The hunters generally adopt the necessary precautions to prevent the flame from communicating; but sometimes those precautions are neglected; sometimes also, although they have been observed, a sudden wind spreads the fire, which often

often consumes the entire enclosure, and even great tracts beyond its bounds, involving in the conflagration all the settlements and houses it meets in its way, and thus reducing many families to ruin." P. 231.

LXXIX. *Human Longevity*: recording the Name, Age, Place of Residence, and Year of the Decease of 1712 Persons, who attained a Century and upwards, from A.D. 66 to 1709, comprising a Period of 1733 Years; with Anecdotes of the most remarkable. By JAMES EASTON. 8vo. pp. 292. 6s. (with an Index.) Easton, Salisbury; White, London.

1630.—MR. HASTINGS—100.

"HE was son, brother, and uncle to the Earl of Huntingdon, and was an original character. In the year 1638 he resided at Woodlands, in the county of Dorset. The mansion-house stood in the middle of the park, surrounded with deer, fish-ponds, and plenty of hares and rabbits. Mr. H. kept all sorts of hounds for buck, fox, otter, hare, and badger; long and short winged hawks. The great hall was filled with all kinds of dogs and cats in great plenty; game-keepers' and hunters' poles; with a vast number of hawks, perchers, terriers, hounds, spaniels, and marrow-bones. The walls of the house were covered with the skins of foxes and polecats. The great parlour windows were filled with cross-bows, stone-bows, and arrows. His old green hats were full of pheasants' eggs, and litters of young cats. Tables, dice, cards, and books were not wanting. The pulpit in the chapel was well stored with gammons of bacon, roast beef, and venison-pasties, and large apple-pies. His cellar, in which was plenty of excellent strong beer, was always open to his neighbours. He dived into the secrets of a great majority of the maids, wives, and widows in his neighbourhood. His pulpit door was always open, which made him much caressed. He was very temperate at meals, when he only drank one pint of small beer stirred with rosemary, and one or two glasses of wine with syrup of gilliflowers. His dress was always green

cloth, with a green hat. He ate oysters twice a day through the year; and rode to the death of a stag when near ninety years of age." P. 8.

1752.—DANIEL BULL M'CARTHY—111,

"OF the county of Kerry, in Ireland. At the age of eighty-four he married a fifth wife, aged fourteen, and had by her twenty children, one every year. He was always very healthy, and never observed to spit: no cold affected him; he could not bear the warmth of a shirt at night, but put it under his pillow. For the last seventy years, when in company, he drank plentifully of rum and brandy, which he called *naked truth*; and if, in compliance with solicitations, he drank claret or punch, he always drank an equal glass of rum or brandy, which he called a *wedge*." P. 36.

1781.—MARY SPEED—103,

"OF Worral, near Yarm; a poor labouring woman. In the early part of her life she was left a widow, with several children, for whose support she worked as a bricklayer's labourer, or at some other laborious employment, till the last twenty years, when she employed herself in spinning, till the time of her death, which happened without any previous illness." P. 173.

1785.—ANNE SIMMS—113,

"OF Studley-green, Wilts. Till within a few months of her death, she was able to walk to and from the seat of the Marquis of Lansdown, near three miles from Studley. She had been, and continued till upwards of one hundred years of age, the most noted poacher in that part of the country; and frequently boasted of selling to gentlemen, the fish taken out of their own ponds. Her coffin and shroud she had purchased, and kept in her apartment more than twenty years." P. 200.

1788.—WILLIAM RIDDELL—116,

"OF Selkirk, in Scotland. This man, who, in the early part of his life, was a considerable smuggler, and remarkable for his love of brandy, which he drank in very large quantities, was

3 H 2

always

always so fond of good ale, that he never drank a draught of pure water. He was not a drunkard, but had frequent paroxysms of drinking, which continued several successive days. After his ninetieth year, he at one time drank for a fortnight together, with only a few intervals of sleep in his chair. He was three times married: when he married his third wife, he was ninety-five years of age. He retained his memory, and other faculties, to his death. For the last two years of his life, his chief subsistence was a little bread infused in spirits and ale." P. 218.

1788.—MARY WILKINSON—109,

"OF Romald-kirk, a village in the north of Yorkshire. She was a native of Lunedale, but when arrived at years of maturity, she changed her residence for the first mentioned place. When she was young, and in perfect health, she walked several times to London; sometimes in four days, though the distance is two hundred and ninety miles. At the advanced age of ninety, she was desirous of seeing the metropolis again; and buckling a keg of gin and a quantity of provisions on her back, to support her to the end of her long journey, she left Romald-kirk, and reached London in five days and three hours! An instance of vigorous age, not to be equalled by the boasting pedestrians of the present day. She lived to see four kings reign; and is interred in a stately tomb, erected at the expense of the inhabitants of Romald-kirk, who esteemed and revered her." P. 221.

1790.—JOHN PLOVER—108,

"OF Witnall, near Coventry, was usually known by the name of *Old Blue-skin*. He lived a servant in the Beauwater family near fifty years, and afterwards built himself a cottage at Witnall, near the turnpike road, where he lived to see the trees he planted round it, become large timber. He had several of his teeth when he died, and retained his memory to the last. He obtained the name of *Blue-skin*, from having frequently, when a young man, been beaten black and blue: for being a hardy fellow, and having a good deal of spirit, his body was seldom without bearing the marks of his adversaries' blows, as he had himself acknowledged.

He received relief from the parish; but his life was rendered as comfortable as possible, by the kind attention of Lord Craven, and some other friends, who supplied him with every thing he wished for. He was handsomely buried at Coventry, at the expense of Edward Inge, Esq. of the Charter-house, near that city." P. 232.

1791.—JONATHAN HARTOP—138,

"OF the village of Aldborough, near Borough-bridge, Yorkshire. His father and mother died of the plague, in their house in the Minories, in 1666; and he perfectly well remembered the great fire of London. He was short in stature; had been married five times; and left seven children, twenty-six grand-children, seventy-four great grand-children, and one hundred and forty great great grand-children. He could read to the last without spectacles, and play at cribbage with the most perfect recollection. On Christmasday 1789, he walked nine miles, to dine with one of his great grand-children. He remembered King Charles II. and once travelled from London to York with the facetious Killegrew. He ate but little, and his only beverage was milk. He enjoyed an uninterrupted flow of spirits. The third wife of this very extraordinary old man, was an illegitimate daughter of Oliver Cromwell, who gave, with her a portion, amounting to about five hundred pounds. He possessed a fine portrait of the usurper, by Cooper, for which a Mr. Hollis offered him three hundred pounds, but was refused. Mr. Hartop lent the great Milton fifty pounds, soon after the restoration, which the bard returned him with honour, though not without much difficulty, as his circumstances were very low. Mr. Hartop would have declined receiving it, but the pride of the poet was equal to his genius, and he sent the money with an angry letter, which was found among the curious possessions of that venerable old man." P. 242.

1791.—JOHN MINNKEN—112,

"OF Maryport, Cumberland. Towards the latter part of his long life, he became rather feeble. He however retained his sight and memory to the last; though his hearing became very defective. He often related the following

following curious anecdote of himself, at which he seldom failed to laugh heartily, as well as his friends: About thirty years preceding his death, he sold his head of hair to a person in a neighbouring town, for a penny-loaf per day, during the remainder of his life: the hair was cut off, and a note given for the performance of the covenant on the part of the purchaser, who failed soon after. It is further worthy of remark, that more than twenty wigs were made of the hair of this singular personage, and that he possessed, but a short time before his death, such an abundance, as few people can boast of, even in the vigour of youth." P. 255.

LXXX. *Walpoliana*. 2 vols. fmo. 8vo. pp. 320. 9s. (With an Index). Phillips.

A Vignette Portrait of Mr. Walpole, and Specimens of the Hand-writing of Mr. Gray and Mr. Walpole; and a biographical Sketch, in fugitive Crayons, of Horace Walpole, Earl of Orford.

EXTRACT FROM THE BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH.

"HORACE Walpole was born in the year 1717; the month and day may be traced in some one of the Peerages, by any idle person who has got such books. A singular alliance joined his father, a decided whig, with the daughter of John Shorter, Esq. the son of Sir John Shorter, arbitrarily appointed mayor of London by the special favour of James II. Horace was the third, and youngest son of this marriage. On the death of this his first wife, Sir Robert Walpole married Maria Skerret, who bore only a daughter, Lady Maria.

"Eton school imparted the first literary tinge to the mind of Horace Walpole, who here formed his acquaintance with Gray the poet, a name ever to be eminent, while genius and literature are revered by mankind. About the year 1734, both proceeded to complete their education at Cambridge. Mr. Walpole was of King's College; and his verses in memory of Henry VI. the founder, dated Feb. 1738, may be regarded as his first production, and no unfavourable omen of his future abilities.

"In the summer of that year, Mr. Walpole, now arrived at majority, was appointed inspector-general of the exports and imports; a place which he soon after exchanged for the sinecure office of usher of the Exchequer, worth three thousand pounds a year. Other posts soon followed, to the further annual amount of seventeen hundred pounds, his father being still in the plenitude of his power.

"Not inclining to enter so early into political bustle and parliamentary life, he prevailed on his father to permit him to travel abroad for a few years. Mr. Gray was induced to accompany him. They left England in March 1739, and proceeded to France and Italy. Upon their return in May 1741, a dispute arose at Reggio, on their route from Florence to Venice. Mr. Walpole liberally assumed the blame: but Mr. Gray was certainly not the most pleasant of companions; and his peculiarities, though those of a man of great genius and erudition, were haughty and impatient, and intolerant of the peculiarities of others. The conscious independence, the inborn pride of talents, are most unfortunate to their possessors; while torpid, pliant, and even-tempered dulness shakes its head at the folly of wisdom. Except a man abandon society, no talents can render him independent of its forms; and Mr. Walpole was, in every point of view, entitled to great deference from Mr. Gray, whose temper was more inclined to expect compliance, than to pay it. If at the same time we reflect that Mr. Gray had then no wreath of fame, we must leave his future reputation out of the estimate. In any other similar case we should have said, 'Here is a man travelling in the 'highest style, at the expense of another, 'whose splendour he shares; introduced 'by him to courts and princes; in short, 'so much elevated, that his head becomes giddy, so that he quarrels for 'some trifle with his liberal benefactor; 'and, by the ill temper of an hour, forfeits his favour for life, and ruins all 'his own reasonable expectations.' There can indeed be no doubt, that had it not been for this idle indulgence of his own haughty temper, Mr. Gray would, immediately on his return, have received, as usual, a pension or office from Sir Robert Walpole: and it is probable that some peevish expression of contempt of any such remuneration, placed

placed an insuperable bar betwixt him and his friend's intentions." *Vol. i. p. xiv.*

"In 1747 he purchased a small tenement at Strawberry-hill, near Twickenham, which he afterwards altered and enlarged in the Gothic taste of building; and crowded the apartments with such a profusion of paintings and curiosities, ancient and modern, that it may be regarded as one of the most interesting residences in England. His fortune, unincumbered with matrimonial expenses, or fashionable extravagances, enabled him to erect a most laudable monument of his love of the arts. He used to term it a paper house, the walls being very slight, and the roof not the most secure in heavy rains; but in viewing the apartments, particularly the magnificent gallery, all such ideas vanished in admiration. The library, and the dining parlour, were built in 1753: the gallery, round tower, great cloister, and cabinet, in 1760 and 1761; not to mention later additions.

"I know not if Mr. Bateman's monastery at Old Windsor were prior in order of time, but it has more uniformity of design. Not to mention minute discordances, there are several parts of Strawberry-hill which belong to the religious, and others to the castellated form of Gothic architecture. But such is the general effect, that pleasure supercedes censure, and criticism wishes to be deceived.

"In 1757 Mr. Walpole here opened a printing press; the first publication being the two sublime odes of Gray, with whom he had renewed his acquaintance in 1744. Their subsequent letters, indeed, bespeak a complete intimacy. The next publications were the translation of a part of Hentzner's Travels—and Mr. Walpole's Catalogue of Royal and Noble Authors, and Fugitive Pieces. So early as 1747 he had appeared as an author, in the *Ædes Walpolianæ*, or description of his father's house at Houghton in Norfolk." *Vol. i. p. xxii.*

"His poetry seldom rises above the middling, but has several forcible lines, and elegant turns of expression. These remarks are confined to his Fugitive Pieces, for in the *Mysterious Mother* he aspires to the praise of real genius, by the strong, characteristic, and appropriated language; by a skilful anatomy of the human heart and passions;

and by a striking originality, which pervades and animates the whole.

"In the same class may be estimated the *Cattle of Oranto*, which, however, has rather the wildness of *Salvator Rosa*, than the grand genius of *Michael Angelo*. It raises expectations which are not gratified—one reads it once—one is disappointed, and returns to it no more. It has nevertheless the merit of originality; and, if the spectres raised, sometimes injure the magician, they at least prove the power of his art. Two objections have been started, that it first appeared as a literary forgery, as a translation from the Italian, by one Marshall, and that it led the way to many wild romances that have followed." *Vol. i. p. xxiv.*

"In briefly considering Mr. Walpole's other prose works, the Catalogue of Royal and Noble Authors first established his reputation, as a most agreeable collector of anecdotes. It is, however, often inaccurate and incomplete. In treating antiquarian subjects, extreme accuracy is required; and extreme accuracy is unattainable, except by extensive reading, and sedulous labour. Fashionable company, and luxurious ease, are not schools of accuracy; and the '*Historic Doubts concerning Richard III.*' present melancholy proofs of this truth. Even in the recent anecdotes of the *Memoires de Grammont*, Mr. Walpole sometimes embroiled his author by radical mistakes.

"Those works of Mr. Walpole, which will probably be reprinted for centuries to come, are his Letters, the *Mysterious Mother*, and the *Anecdotes of Painting in England*. If the metaphor be not quaint, the last may be considered as the basis of his column of celebrity, the letters as the shaft, the tragedy as a finished capital. The amiable ease, and playful elegance, the striking expression, ready sense, and graceful turns of his language, were singularly adapted to epistolary correspondence." *Vol. i. p. xxvii.*

"Mr. Walpole was of a benignant and charitable disposition, but no man ever existed who had less of the character of a patron. He has somewhere said that an artist has pencils, and an author has pens, and the public must reward them as it happens. He might have added, in strict character, that poets and pensions, and even presents, were

were the allotted and eternal perquisites of persons of quality—the manna of the chosen people.

“As to artists, he paid them what they earned; and he commonly employed mean ones, that the reward might be smaller. The portraits in the Anecdotes of Painting disgrace the work; and a monument consecrated to the arts is deeply inscribed with the chilling penury of their supposed patron. Yet no one was more prone to censure such imperfections in the productions of others.

“As to authors, it would be truly difficult to point out one who received any solid pecuniary patronage from Mr. Walpole. His praise was valuable; but the powers of his voice were not extensive, and never called forth distant echoes. Chatterton could not expect what neither Gray, nor Mason, nor other favourite men of genius, had ever seen. With an income of about five thousand pounds a year, a mere pittance for a person of his birth and rank, it is no wonder that poverty prevented him from ever giving fifty pounds, or even five, to any man of talents; for he considered an ascetic life as very beneficial to the mental powers. Modesty also forbade his making presents, or doing any essential services, to artists or authors, who might perhaps, in their idle emotions of gratitude, have proclaimed the benefits received. This he avoided by silently transmitting his money to the Bank, that he might cut up fat in a rich and titled will; or by laying out on some breviary, or bauble of the days of Queen Bess, what might have saved genius from despair, might have invigorated the hand of industry, and have secured the purest and most lasting of all kinds of reputation, the celestial fame of goodness and beneficence. Had the house of Medici, his favourite family, been contented with their opulence and their gallery, we should never have heard of Lorenzo the Magnificent, nor of Leo the patron of letters. It was not the selfish cloud, but the scattered shower, that awoke the flowers of applause.” *Vol. i. p. xxxv.*

“The person of Horace Walpole was short and slender, but compact and neatly formed. When viewed from behind, he had somewhat of a boyish appearance, owing to the form of his person, and the simplicity of his dress.

His features may be seen in many portraits; but none can express the placid goodness of his eyes, which would often sparkle with sudden rays of wit, or dart forth flashes of the most keen and intuitive intelligence. His laugh was forced and uncouth, and even his smile not the most pleasing.

“His walk was enfeebled by the gout; which, if the editor’s memory do not deceive, he mentioned that he had been tormented with since the age of twenty-five; adding, at the same time, that it was no hereditary complaint, his father, Sir Robert Walpole, who always drank ale, never having known that disorder, and far less his other parent. This painful complaint not only affected his feet, but attacked his hands to such a degree that his fingers were always swelled and deformed, and discharged large chalk-stones once or twice a year; upon which occasions he would observe, with a smile, that he would fet up an inn, for he could chalk up a score with more ease and rapidity than any man in England.

“Whether owing to this disorder, or to a sense of the superiority of mental delights, and clear even spirits, to the feverish delirium of debauch, the perdition of memory, and the slow convalescence amid the pangs of self-reproach, he passed the latter half, at least, of his life in the most strict temperance, though in his youth it is believed he was rather addicted to the luxuries of a replete table. Though he fat up very late, either writing or conversing, he generally rose about nine o’clock, and appeared in the breakfast-room, his constant and chosen apartment, with fine viands towards the Thames. His approach was proclaimed, and attended by a favourite little dog, the legacy of the Marquise du Deffand; and which ease and attention had rendered so fat that it could hardly move. This was placed beside him on a small sofa; the tea-kettle, stand and heater, were brought in, and he drank two or three cups of that liquor out of most rare and precious ancient porcelain of Japan, of a fine white embossed with large leaves. The account of his china-cabinet, in his description of his villa, will show how rich he was in that elegant luxury. The loaf and butter were not spared, for never talling even what is called no-supper, he was appetised for breakfast

fast; and the dog and the squirrels had a liberal share of his repast.

"Dinner was served up in the small parlour, or large dining-room, as it happened: in winter generally the former. His valet supported him down stairs; and he ate most moderately of chicken, pheasant, or any light food. Palfrey he disliked, as difficult of digestion, though he would taste a morsel of venison-pye. Never, but once that he drank two glasses of white-wine, did the editor see him taste any liquor, except ice-water. A pail of ice was placed under the table, in which stood a decanter of water, from which he supplied himself with his favourite beverage. This his guest would occasionally share, and found it a delicious refreshment, diffusing the genial warmth imparted by liqueurs, without any of their subsequent heating and pernicious effects. It is indeed surprising that this luxury of every porter in Naples should continue so rare in other countries.

"If his guest liked even a moderate quantity of wine, he must have called for it during dinner, for almost instantly after he rang the bell to order coffee up stairs. Thither he would pass about five o'clock; and generally resuming his place on the sofa, would sit till two o'clock in the morning, in miscellaneous chit-chat, full of singular anecdotes, strokes of wit, and acute observations, occasionally sending for books, or curiosities, or passing to the library, as any reference happened to arise in conversation. After his coffee he tasted nothing; but the snuff-box of *tabac d'etrennes*, from Fribourg's, was not forgotten, and was replenished from a canister, lodged in an ancient marble urn of great thickness, which stood in the window seat, and served to secure its moisture and rich flavour.

"Such was a private rainy day of Horace Walpole. The forenoon quickly passed in roaming through the numerous apartments of the house, in which, after twenty visits, still something new would occur; and he was indeed constantly adding fresh acquisitions. Sometimes a walk in the grounds would intervene, on which occasions he would go out in his slippers through a thick dew; and he never wore a hat. He said that, on his first visit to Paris, he was ashamed of his effeminacy, when he saw every little meagre Frenchman, whom even

he could have thrown down with a breath, walking without a hat, which he could not do, without a certainty of that disease, which the Germans say is endemial in England, and is termed by the natives *le catch-cold*. The first trial cost him a slight fever, but he got over it, and never caught cold afterwards: draughts of air, damp rooms, windows open at his back, all situations were alike to him in this respect. He would even show some little offence at any solicitude, expressed by his guests on such an occasion, as an idea arising from the seeming tenderness of his frame; and would say with a half-smile of good-humoured crossness, 'My back is the same with my face, and my neck is like my nose.' His iced water he not only regarded as a preservative from such an accident, but he would sometimes observe that he thought his stomach and bowels would last longer than his bones; such conscious vigour and strength in those parts did he feel from the use of that beverage." Vol. i. p. xl.

"His engaging manners, and gentle endearing affability to his friends, exceed all praise. Not the smallest hauteur, or consciousness of rank or talents, appeared in his familiar conferences; and he was ever eager to dissipate any constraint that might occur, as imposing a constraint upon himself, and knowing that any such chain enfeebls and almost annihilates the mental powers. Endued with exquisite sensibility, his wit never gave the smallest wound even to the grossest ignorance of the world, or the most morbid hypochondriac bashtfulness: *ex pecto crede*." Vol. i. p. xlv.

"The mental powers of this pleasing and interesting writer have already been sufficiently estimated, and it is almost needless to add, that they chiefly consisted in an exquisite taste for the fine arts; and in what the French term *le fleur d'esprit*, the product of a brilliant fancy, and rapid association of ideas, joined with good sense. Thus endued by nature and education, his ample fortune enabled him to enjoy a learned luxury, to pick all the roses of science, and leave the thorns behind. In the distribution of human affairs, it generally happens that those who have a decided propensity to letters, or the arts, are confined in the gloomy cells of penury, and oppressed with those cares which are the most foreign to their

their pursuits; while the delights of free genius, and excursive science, are chilled by the fordid necessities of acquiring a daily maintenance. The opulent, on the contrary, rarely possess a warm and decided taste for the arts, and far less for literary labours: the gulf of dissipation, the oblivion not the enjoyment of life, lies between them and this paradise. To this paradise Mr. Walpole was admitted: and if human life can ever be said to run in a course of regular and uniform happiness, that happiness was his, endeared, perhaps, rather than diminished, by distant intervals of corporeal infirmity. Surrounded by every object that can delight the mind or the eye, that can excite curiosity, or gratify taste; blessed with a strong propensity to some one, or other, interesting pursuit (the very secret of human felicity), and never deficient in the means of its accomplishment, he certainly moved in a sphere known to very few." *Vol. i. p. xlvii.*

EXTRACTS.

MONKS AND FRIARS.

"WHAT you say is perfectly just. Some degree of learning is necessary even to compose a novel. How many modern writers confound monks and friars! Yet they were almost as different as laymen and priests. Monachism was an old institution for *laymen*. The friars, *freres*, or brothers, were first instituted in the thirteenth century, in order, by their preaching, to oppose the Lollards. They united priesthood with monachism; but while the monks were chiefly confined to their respective houses, the friars were wandering about as preachers and confessors. This gave great offence to the secular clergy, who were thus deprived of profits and inheritances. Hence the satiric and impure figures of friars and nuns, in our old churches. Do you remember any example of retaliation? I suppose there were similar libels on the secular clergy in the chapels of friaries now abolished †." *Vol. i. p. 4.*

SYMPTOMS OF INSANITY.

"MY poor nephew, Lord * * *, was deranged. The first symptom that

appeared was, his sending a chaldron of coals as a present to the Prince of Wales, on learning that he was loaded with debts. He delighted in what he called *book-hunting*. This notable diversion consisted in taking a volume of a book, and hiding it in some secret part of the library, among volumes of similar binding and size. When he had forgot where the game lay, he hunted till he found it." *Vol. i. p. 6.*

TWO MINISTERS.

"MR. Pitt's plan, when he had the gout, was to have no fire in his room, but to load himself with bed-clothes. At his house at Hayes he slept in a long room; at one end of which was his bed, and his lady's at the other. His way was, when he thought the Duke of Newcastle had fallen into any mistake, to send for him, and read him a lecture. The Duke was sent for once, and came, when Mr. Pitt was confined to bed by the gout. There was, as usual, no fire in the room; the day was very chilly, and the Duke, as usual, afraid of catching cold. The Duke first sat down on Mrs. Pitt's bed, as the warmest place; then drew up his legs into it, as he got colder. The lecture unluckily continuing a considerable time, the Duke at length fairly lodged himself under Mrs. Pitt's bed-clothes. A person, from whom I had the story, suddenly going in, saw the two ministers in bed, at the two ends of the room, while Pitt's long nose, and black beard unshaved for some days, added to the grotesque of the scene." *Vol. i. p. 33.*

GRAY.

"GRAY was a deist, but a violent enemy of atheists, such as he took Voltaire and Hume to be; but, in my opinion, erroneously.

"The quarrel between Gray and me arose from his being too serious a companion. I had just broke loose from the restraints of the university, with as much money as I could spend, and I was willing to indulge myself. Gray was for antiquities, &c. while I was for perpetual balls and plays. The fault was mine.

† "Gross errors of this kind appear in the writings of Mrs. Radcliffe, and Mr. Lewis; 'The Monk' of the latter, both in his book and play, being in fact a friar, a being of a very different description. EDIT." "Gray

"Gray was a little man of very ungainly appearance." *Vol. i. p. 95.*

ARCHITECTURAL SOLECISM.

"A SOLECISM may be committed even in architecture. The ruin in Kew Gardens is built with Act-of-Parliament brick*." *Vol. i. p. 115.*

CELLINI'S BELL.

"ONE of the pieces in my collection, which I the most highly value, is the silver bell with which the popes used to curse the caterpillars; a ceremony I believe now abandoned. Lachontan, in his travels, mentions a like absurd custom in Canada, the solemn excommunication, by the bishop, of the turtle-doves, which greatly injured the plantations.

"For this bell I exchanged with the Marquis of Rockingham all my Roman coins in large brass. The reliefs, representing caterpillars, butterflies, and other insects, are wonderfully executed.

"Cellini, the artist, was one of the most extraordinary men in an extraordinary age. His life, written by himself, is more amusing than any novel I know." *Vol. i. p. 116.*

SIR JOHN GERMAIN.

"I SHALL tell you a very foolish but a true story. Sir John Germain, ancestor of Lady Betty Germain, was a Dutch adventurer, who came over here in the reign of Charles II. He had an intrigue with a countess, who was divorced, and married him. This man was so ignorant, that being told that Sir Matthew Decker wrote St. Matthew's gospel, he firmly believed it. I doubted this tale very much, till I asked a lady of quality, his descendant, about it, who told me it was most true. She added, that Sir John Germain was in consequence so much persuaded of Sir Matthew's piety, that, by his will, he left two hundred pounds to Sir Matthew, to be distributed among the Dutch paupers in London." *Vol. i. p. 119.*

* "An act passed, forty or fifty years ago, to fix the precise length, breadth, and thickness, of each brick. The old Roman bricks, &c. &c. are of a very different form."

† "My tiege is made."

SENTIMENT.

"WHAT is called sentimental writing, though it be understood to appeal solely to the heart, may be the product of a bad one. One would imagine that Sterne had been a man of a very tender heart; yet I know, from indubitable authority, that his mother, who kept a school, having run in debt, on account of an extravagant daughter, would have rotted in jail, if the parents of her scholars had not railed a subscription for her. Her son had too much sentiment to have any feeling. A dead ass was more important to him than a living mother." *Vol. i. p. 133.*

VERTOT.

"IN writing the History of the Knights of Malta, Vertot had sent to Italy for original materials, concerning the siege of Rhodes; but, impatient of the long delay, he completed his narrative from his own imagination. At length the packet arrived, when Vertot was sitting with a friend: he opened it, and threw it contemptuously on the sofa behind him, saying coolly, *Mon siege est fait*." *Vol. i. p. 134.*

BRANTOME.

"BRANTOME is a singular and amusing writer. What a composition the first volume of his *Dames Galantes*!

"In his account of the Vidame of Chartres he says, that when that lord passed to London, as one of the hostages for the performance of the treaty between England and France, he rendered himself so agreeable to King Edward, (III?) that he took him with him 'jusqu'au fin fonds des sauvages d'Ecoiffe' (to the furthest part of the highlands of Scotland). There was held a grand hunt of deer; after which the Scots pressing with clubs the game killed, in order to squeeze out the blood, ate the raw flesh with bread, and thought it delicious.

"I wonder this story has escaped Mr. Pennant." *Vol. ii. p. 76.*

FISH IN FASHION.

"WHEN fashions are worn out at Paris, the milliners send the antiquated articles to the North, that is, to Sweden or Russia. A vessel deeply laden with such merchandise was run down in the channel of St. Petersburg. Next day a salmon was caught in the Neva, dressed in a white satin petticoat; and in the same net were found two large cod, with muslin handkerchiefs around their necks. The sharks and porpoises were observed in gowns of the latest taste; and hardly was there a fish that did not display some of the freshest Parisian fashions that had ever visited the North." *Vol. ii. p. 90.*

WHEELER INSECT.

"THE wheeler insect is a curious microscopical object. Take a little dust of rotten timber, and a drop of water; by and by the insect appears, two horns arise on its head, and then a wheel, the velocity of which is surprising. It sails among the dust, as if amidst islands. The wheel seems intended by suction to draw in numbers of smaller insects, its food. *Vol. ii. p. 98.*

THE NEW ROBINSON CRUSOE.

"SIR T. Robinson was a tall, uncouth man, and his stature was often rendered still more remarkable by his hunting dress, a postilion's cap, a tight green jacket, and buckskin breeches. He was liable to sudden whims; and once set off on a sudden, in his hunting suit, to visit his sister, who was married and settled at Paris.

"He arrived while there was a large company at dinner. The servant announced M. Robinson, and he came in, to the great amazement of the guests. Among others, a French abbé thrice lifted his fork to his mouth, and thrice laid it down, with an eager stare of surprise. Unable to restrain his curiosity any longer, he burst out with, 'Excuse me, Sir: are you the famous Robinson Crusoe so remarkable in history?' *Vol. ii. p. 130.*

LEARNING ENCOURAGED.

"I WAS told a droll story concerning Mr. Gibbon, the other day. One of those booksellers in Paternoster Row who publish things in numbers, went to Gibbon's lodgings in St. James's

Street, sent up his name, and was admitted. 'Sir,' said he, 'I am now publishing a History of England, done by several good hands. I understand you have a knack at them there things, and should be glad to give you every reasonable encouragement.'

"As soon as Gibbon recovered the use of his legs and tongue, which were petrified with surprise, he ran to the bell, and desired his servant to show this encourager of learning down stairs." *Vol. ii. p. 136.*

PORTRAIT OF NINON.

"I WAS desirous to have a portrait of Ninon de l'Enclos; and now that I have it I don't like it. She tries to look charming, you see, and she looks tipsy." *Vol. ii. p. 143.*

LXXXI. *The History of the Anglo-Saxons, from their first Appearance above the Elbe to the Death of Egbert. With a Map of their ancient Territory. By SH. TURNER. 8vo. pp. 395. 7s. Cadell and Davies.*

CONTENTS.

BOOK I.—Chap. I. The Origin of the Saxons.—II. Description of the Country inhabited by the Saxons.—III. Circumstances favourable to the Increase of the Saxon Power.—IV. The Application of the Saxons to maritime Expeditions.—V. The League of the Saxons with other States, and their continental Aggrandizement.—VI. Their general Character.—VII. Sequel of their History to the Period of the English Invasion.—VIII. The History of Britain, from the Death of Maximus, in 388, to the Arrival of the Saxons in 449.—IX. The Period between the Departure of the Romans and the Invasion of the Saxons.

BOOK II.—Chap. I. The Arrival of Hengist—His Transactions with the Britons—The Settlement of the Anglo-Saxons in eight Governments.—II. The Peoples that established them.

themselves in Britain.—III. Of the existing Works of the British Bards who were contemporary with some of the Anglo-Saxon Invasions.—IV. The Conflicts between the Britons and the Anglo-Saxons commemorated by the British Writers.—V. Arthur, as he appears in Tradition—His probable History.—VI. The History of the Anglo-Saxon Overtures to the Victory of Oswald over Cadwallon, A. D. 624.—VII. Continuation of the History of the Overtures to the Death of Ina, in 728.—VIII. The History of the Overtures, from the Death of Ina to the Accession of Egbert in the Year 800.—IX. A View of the State of Europe at the Accession of Egbert.—X. The Reign of Egbert.—Appendix.

EXTRACTS FROM THE PREFACE.

“THE view which the present author has taken of the subject differs from that of his respected predecessors. He thought that the period of the Anglo-Saxon history, which preceded the invasion of England, was worthy of greater attention, because to contemplate the infancy of celebrated nations is among the most pleasing occupations of human curiosity; it is peculiarly important to us, the posterity of the Anglo-Saxons, to know as much as possible of our continental ancestors. The first book of this history states all the information that could be collected on this point.

“The history of the Britons, during the era immediately preceding the Saxon invasion, is also of great consequence to the clear perception of the subsequent events. This part of our antiquities has been much neglected by our general historians; an humble attempt has been made, in the latter part of the first book, to select the truest incidents from the obscurity and error with which they are enveloped.

“The defence of Britain by the natives, though highly interesting, has never been sufficiently studied. On this subject it appeared of supreme importance to consult the evidence of

the Britons themselves. The present day happens to be more favourable to this subject than any preceding era. The literature of the ancient Britons, after a long oblivion disgraceful to our curiosity, is now under the attention of gentlemen able to disclose it. Some of its treasures have been brought forward. The author has eagerly availed himself of these, though few in comparison of what actually exist, and trusts that the intelligent curiosity of the public will call out of their dust the numerous compositions which have so long slumbered, uselessly to the world, in private libraries, and a forgotten tongue. With such unpardonable neglect have these relics of our ancient islanders been treated, that even Welshmen have complained that their language was unintelligible; and a manuscript of old British music is in existence, of which the notation is not at present to be decyphered. While it could have been understood it was disregarded; and thus a monument of ancient days, highly precious to every inquisitive mind, is lost to us for ever.

“The poems of the bards, mentioned in the second book of this work, ought to appear with literal translations and notes; the British Triades ought also to be published*. If any old British genealogies exist, they should be collected; every British fragment, that at all appertains to history, should be secluded no longer. Bretagne as well as Wales should be explored. The Danish literati have given in this respect, an example to the world. A collection like Langebek's *Scriptores Rerum Danicarum mediæ ævi*, partim hæcenus inediti, should appear from every country: and until such efforts are made to rescue the relics of history from the destruction which has already consumed some, and is about to annihilate the rest, the literati of every country deserve to be stigmatized for their fatal indolence.

“Of the great Arthur so much has been fabled, and so much has been denied, that it was impossible to pass over his actions in silence. It is now beyond our power to give his history in luminous detail. As far as the author could safely venture, he has advanced, and he has separated the Arthur of tra-

* “The Poems and Triades are now printing in their original language. It is to be hoped that their publication will stimulate some gentleman to a translation.”

dition from the Arthur of history. He thought it was interesting to have some of the traditions preserved, which were not only esteemed, but credited by former ages, and he has therefore inserted them in the Appendix. If they should be found to be beneath the notice of the literati, they may be serviceable to some British virgin.

"The incidents of the Anglo-Saxon octarchy (for so he begs permission to name the Saxon heptarchy) have not been allowed the merit which they possess. The author may be too partial to his subject, but he has always thought that the history of the Anglo-Saxon governments was full of interesting anecdotes, which had never received the consideration they claimed.

"These circumstances are all which the author has attempted in this part of his work. Another volume will carry on the Anglo-Saxon history from Egbert to the Norman conquest, and some new matter will be occasionally inserted in it. This part is preparing for the press.

"To complete the Anglo-Saxon history, a review of their laws, manners, government, literature, and religion, will be requisite. May not the progress of the human mind from barbarism to knowledge, be viewed in epitome in the history of every nation which has undergone this happy progress? It is the author's intention, in this third part of his work, to exhibit the gradual advances of the Anglo-Saxon intellect; to display the savage pirate slowly ameliorating into the civilized, moral, and scientific man. But this attempt will be peculiarly difficult; much illusion of conjecture must be guarded against; many little traits must be collected, without which the picture cannot be completed, and consequently some time must elapse before the performance can venture to approach the public eye." P. iv.

EXTRACTS.

THE PROBABLE HISTORY OF ARTHUR.

"THE authentic actions of Arthur have been so disfigured by the gorgeous additions of the minstrels and of Jeffry*, that many writers have denied that he ever lived; but this is an extreme as wild as the romances which occasioned

it. His existence is testified by his contemporaries, whose genius has survived the ruin of twelve centuries; and the British bards are a body of men too illustrious for their personal merit and wonderful institution to be discredited when they attest. The tales, that all human perfection was collected in Arthur; that giants and kings who never existed, and nations which he never saw, were subdued by him; that he went to Jerusalem for the sacred cross, or that he not only excelled the experienced past, but also the possible future, we may, if we please, recollect only to despise; but when all the fictions are removed, and those incidents only are retained which the sober criticism of history sanctions with its approbation, a fame ample enough to interest the judicious, and to perpetuate his honourable memory, will still continue to bloom.

"We are not yet empowered to point out the exact province from which Arthur emerged. We hear of two kings of Gwent in the sixth century of the name of Arthruis; one, the son of Mouric, king of Glamorgan; the other, son of Fernvail; but whether either of these was the conqueror of the Saxons, or whether his reputation had occasioned others to impose the name on their children, or whether it be the same name, is uncertain. It is affirmed that Noe, son of an Arthur, gave Llandilovawr to the church. If this was a child of the celebrated Arthur, his donation announces a sovereignty in Caermarthen-shire; but in these days of confusion, when chieftains fled from one country to another, we cannot infer the residence of the father from the situation of his children. When Melva, king of Somersetshire, deprived him of his wife, he appeared at the head of the men of Cornwall and Devon; when he gave his splendid feast after his victory over the Saxons, Caerleon on the Utk was the scene of the carousal. These incidents seem to station him in various places, and forbid us to decide positively in favour of either.

"The chronology of his first appearance is also undetermined. We may chuse the period which seems to us most probable, but we have no right to force it on the belief of others. The era which we should prefer would be

* (Jeffery) in his British History.

one which did not precede 528. On such a subject it would be ludicrous to attempt precision." P. 228.

"Twenty-two years are calculated to have intervened between the battle of Bath, in which he checked the stream of the Saxon conquest, and that fatal period in which he was torn from his lamenting friends by domestic treachery and civil rebellion. This catastrophe was produced by the infidelity of his Queen Gwenhwyfar, and the hostility of Medrawd his nephew. As Medrawd was able to defy the vengeance of the potent Arthur, and even to meet him in battle, we may suspect that chieftains jealous of Arthur's authority supported the rebellion. Some authors intimate, that to obtain the aid of neutrality of the West Saxons, Medrawd gave them several provinces in their vicinity. As usurped power always seeks to maintain itself by crime, and absurdly hopes to obtain from new transgressions, that impunity which it can never find, Medrawd may have sacrificed his country to his revenge; but all who love truth in history, will tread lightly and cautiously over these events, and not bring any incident too strongly into notice.

"Camlan was the scene of that disastrous conflict, in which Medrawd dared to meet his injured uncle with the sword of revolt, and to consummate the crime of incest by murder. Two days the battle lasted. The poem of Myrzin adds, that seven only escaped from the slaughter. We may interpret this of chiefs or officers. The traitor fell, but Arthur also received a mortal wound. From the coast of Cornwall he was conveyed into Somersetshire. Sailing along the shore they reached the Uzella, which they ascended, and the king was committed to the care of his friends in Glastonbury, but their skill could not avert the fatal hour.

"The grave of Arthur was the mystery of the world; his death was concealed, and a wild tale was diffused among the populace, that he had withdrawn from the world into some magical region, from which at a future crisis he was to re-appear, and to lead the Cymry in triumph through the island. Why this fiction was invented we may now inquire in vain. It could not repress the ambition of the Saxons, because the temporary absence of Arthur was sufficient to favour their

wishes; and if his living authority could not prevent British insurrection, was it probable that his residence in another region would avail? yet Taliessin industriously sang that Morgana promised, if he remained a long time with her, to heal his wounds; and it is notorious that the return of Arthur was a fond hope of the people for many ages. Perhaps it was an illusion devised to avert the popular vengeance from those who, by aiding Medrawd, had contributed to produce the lamented event; perhaps the kings inculcated by Gildas had participated in the rebellion; or perhaps some, affecting to reign in trust for Arthur, conciliated the public prejudice in favour of their government, by thus representing that they governed only for him." P. 239.

"But though the friends of Arthur concealed the place of his interment, a future age discovered it. In the year 1189, when romance had begun to magnify his fame, his body was diligently sought for in the abbey of Glastonbury. Henry de Soili, the abbot, at the solicitation of Henry the Second and others, prosecuted the search. The king had often told him, that he had heard from the Welch bards, that Arthur lay buried between two pyramids very deep. The monastery contained two stone pillars, with many inscriptions, illegible from the injuries of time and the antiquity of the writing. The ground between these was dug to a great depth, and above seven feet below the surface, a leaden cross was found under a stone, with the inscription, 'Hic jacet sepultus inclitus rex Arthurus in insula Avallonia.' The abbot presented the cross, and Giraldus read the inscription. Nine feet below this, the remains of Arthur appeared enclosed in oak; of this formidable warrior nothing but dust and bones were visible. Some yellow hair indicated that his second wife had lain near him.

"The bones of Arthur were as extraordinary as his reputed actions; an eye-witness declares, that the abbot applied the tibia to the leg of the tallest man then present, and that it rose three fingers breadth above his knee. His skull was equally prodigious; the space of a hand expanded between the bones which had been covered by his eyebrows. Ten wounds marked the head, which had concentered into scars, except one

one that displayed an unclosed chasm,
the avenue of fate*.

"The revered relics of the hero
were interred with magnificence.
His sword, his Caliburno, as a precious gift, was presented by Richard the First to the king of Sicily, and his crown was taken away by Edward from Carnarvon. The publication of Jeffry's British History, an interpolated translation of the composition of Tyffilio, diffused the fame of Arthur with new but extravagant splendour through England, through Europe, and the world. By doing Arthur this justice, he saved nature some trouble, for 'had men been silent about Arthur, the mountains, rocks, and stones of Wales would have been perpetually proclaiming his name. Such is the inseparable attachment of glory to virtue!' P. 243.

LXXXII. *Miscellanies*. By JAMES HAY BEATTIE, A. M. With an Account of his Life and Character. By JAMES BEATTIE, L. L. D. Small 8vo. pp. 196. 6s. *Dilly*.

A Portrait, engraved by Heath.

CONTENTS.

OF the Author's Life and Character.—*Essays and Fragments, in Prose and Verse*—Fragments of a Poem on the Excellence of Christianity—Messias—In Obitum Ricardi West—Sonnet (by Mr. Gray) on the Death of Mr. Richard West—Delia—Dirge in Cymbeline, by Mr. Collins—Poematis, cui titulus The Minstrel, Fragmentum—From the Minstrel, Book II. Stanz. 17, 18—Cantilena—Scotch Song—Ad Petri promontorium Invitatio—Invitation to Peterhead—Ode—Hunting—Cantilena—Song. By ————Lines adapted to a favourite

military Air—On the Death of Mr. James Valentine—Gulielmo Wilson, Chirurgo, A. M. in Indiam Occidentalem navigaturo. Ode—In Obitum Nobilis Infortunatæ Elegia. Pope's Elegy on an unfortunate Lady—Vuliteius Eques—Ex Poemate cui titulus The Castle of Indolence—Epistle—The modern Tippling Philosophers—Fashion. A Dialogue—Epitaph on Diophantus—Epitaphium Diophanti—Lethe. A Ballad—The Descent of Timothy—Tom Jones—Horace. Epist. I. 5. imitated—Horace. Epist. I. 18. imitated—Dialogues of the Dead. I. Addison, Johnson—II. Socrates, Johnson, and a Fine Gentleman—III. Swift, a Bookseller, and Mercury.

EXTRACT.

THE MODERN TIPPLING PHILOSOPHERS.

"FATHER Hodge † had his pipe
and his dram,
And at night, his cloy'd thirst to

awaken,
He was serv'd with a rasher of ham,
Which procur'd him the surname of
Bacon.

He has shown, that, though logical
science

And dry theory oft prove un-
handy,
Honest Truth will ne'er set at defiance
Experiment aided by brandy.

"Des Cartes bore a musket, they tell
us,

Ere he wish'd, or was able, to write,
And was noted among the brave fel-
lows,

Who are bolder to tittle than fight.
Of his system the cause and design

We no more can be pos'd to ex-
plain:—

The *materia subtilis* was wine,
And the *vortices* whirl'd in his
brain.

* "On the subject of these bones, see Mr. Whitaker's *Parallel Facts*, 2 Manchester. 69. If these bones really belonged to Arthur, this verse cannot relate to him, or must be untrue, 'Gwenhyfar of beautiful aspect, Oh reject me not because I am little.' Ymz Arthur a Gwenhyfar. Owen, voc. Divrodi."

† "Roger Bacon, the father of experimental philosophy. He flourished in the 13th century."

"Old Hobbes, as his name plainly shows,

At a *bob-nob* was frequently tried :
That all virtue from selfishness rose
He believ'd, and all laughter from pride †.

The truth of this creed he would brag on,

Smoke his pipe, murder Homer ‡, and quaff;

Then starting, as drunk as a dragon,
In the pride of his heart he would laugh.

"Sir Isaac discover'd, it seems,
The nature of colours and light,
In remarking the tremulous beams
That swam on his wandering sight.
Ever sapient, sober though seldom,
From experience *attraction* he found,
By observing, when no one upheld him,
That his wife head fell soule on the ground.

"As to Berkeley's philosophy—he has
Left his poor pupils nought to inherit,

But a swarm of deceitful ideas,
Kept, like other monsters, in spirits.
Tar-drinkers can't think what's the matter,

That their health does not mend,
but decline:

Why, they take but some wine to their water,

He took but some water to wine.

• One Mandeville once, or Mandevil,
(Either name you may give as you please)

By a brain ever brooding on evil,
Hatch'd a monster call'd *Fable of Bees*.

Vice, said he, aggrandizes a people * ;
By this light let my conduct be view'd;

I swagger, swear, guzzle, and tipple:

And— ye, 'tis all for your good.

† "See the Spectator, numb. 47."

‡ "Hobbes was a great smoker, and wrote what some have been pleased to call a Translation of Homer."

§ "He taught that the external universe has no existence, but an ideal one, in the mind (or spirit) that perceives it: and he thought tar-water an universal remedy."

* "Private vices, public benefits."

¶ "Electrical batteries."

¶ "Bred a printer. This was written long before Dr. Franklin's death."

¶ "Dr. L. Bp. of C. is probably the person here alluded to. He was a zealous materialist."

"D— H— ate a swinging great dinner,

And grew every day fatter and fatter;

And yet the huge hulk of a finner
Said there was neither spirit nor matter.

Now there's no sober man in the nation,
Who such nonsense could write,
speak, or think:

It follows, by fair demonstration,
That he philosophiz'd in his drink.

"As a smuggler even P— could sin;
Who, in hopes the poor gauger of frightening,

While he fill'd the case-bottles with gin,

Swore he fill'd them with thunder
and lightning ¶.

In his cups (when Locke's laid on the shelf)

Could he speak, he would frankly
confess it t'ye,

That, unable to manage himself,
He puts his whole trust in necessity.

"If the young in rash folly engage,
How closely continues the evil!

Old Franklin retains, as a sage,
The thirst he acquir'd when a devil ¶.

That charging drives fire from a phial,
It was natural for him to think,

After finding, from many a trial,
That drought may be kindled by drink.

"A certain high priest could explain ¶,
How the soul is but nerve at the most;

And how Milton had glands in his brain,

That secreted the Paradise Lost.

And sure, it is what they deserve,
Of such theories, if I aver it,

They are not even dictates of nerve,
But mere muddy suggestions of claret.

"Our Holland philosophers say, Gin
Is the true philosophical drink,
As it made Doctor H——y imagine
That to *shake* is the same as to *think* *.
For, while drunkenness throb'd in his
brain,
The sturdy materialist chose (O fy!)
To believe its vibrations not pain,
But wisdom, and downright philo-
sophy.

"Ye sages, who shine in my verse,
On my labours with gratitude think,
Which condemn not the faults they
rehearfe,
But impute all your sin to your
drink.

In drink, poets, philosophers, mob,
err;

Then excuse if my satire e'er nips
ye:

When I praise, think me prudent and
sober,

If I blame, be assur'd I am tipsy."

P. 125.

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LIST OF PLATES.

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2. *The Bishop of Assisi throwing his
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EXTRACTS.

THE DISADVANTAGES OF SOLITUDE.

"THE retirement which is not the
result of cool and deliberate reason,
so far from improving the feelings of
the heart, or strengthening the powers
of the mind, generally renders men
less able to discharge the duties and
endure the burdens of life. The wisest
and best formed system of retirement
is, indeed, surrounded with a variety
of dangers, which are not, without
the greatest care and caution, easily
avoided. But in every species of total
solitude the surrounding perils are not
only innumerable, but almost irresisti-
ble. It would, however, be errone-
ous to impute all the defects which
may characterize such a recluse merely
to the loneliness of his situation. There
are original defects implanted by the
hand of nature in every constitution,
which no species of retirement or dis-
cipline can totally eradicate: there are
certain vices, the seeds of which are
so inherent, that no care, however
great, can totally destroy. The ad-
vantages and disadvantages arising
from retirement, will always be pro-
portionate to the degrees of *virtue* and
vice which prevail in the character of
the recluse. It is certain that an occa-
sional retreat from the business of the
world will greatly improve the virtues,
and increase the happiness, of him on
whom nature has bestowed a sound
understanding and a sensible heart;
but when the heart is corrupt, the
understanding weak, the imagination
flighty, and the disposition depraved,
solitude only tends to increase the evil,
and to render the character more rank
and vicious: for whatever be the cul-
ture, the produce will unavoidably
partake of the quality of the seeds and
the nature of the soil: and solitude,
by allowing a weak and wicked mind
leisure to brood over its own sugges-
tions, re-creates and rears the mischief
it was intended to prevent.

"To enable the mind, however, to
form an accurate judgment of the
probable consequences of solitude, it
is, perhaps, necessary to have seen in-
stances both of its advantageous and
detrimental effects. The consequences
vary with the subject on which it ope-

* "He resolved perception and thinking into *vibrations*, and (what he
called) *vibratiuncles*, of the brain."
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rates; and the same species of solitude which to one character would be injurious, will prove to another of the highest benefit and advantage. The same person, indeed, may, at different periods, as his disposition changes, experience, under similar circumstances of retirement, very different effects. Certain, however, it is, that an occasional retreat from the tumultuous intercourses of society, or a judicious and well-arranged retirement, cannot be prejudicial. To have pointed out the train of virtues it is capable of producing, and to have been silent on the black catalogue of vices that may result from extreme seclusion, would have been the more pleading task; but I have undertaken to draw the character of Solitude impartially, and must therefore point out its possible defects.

"Man, in a state of solitary indolence and inactivity, sinks by degrees, like stagnant water, into impurity and corruption. The body suffers with the mind's decay. It is more fatal than excess of action. It is a malady that renders every hope of recovery vain and visionary. To sink from action into rest, is only indulging the common course of nature; but to rise from long-continued indolence to voluntary activity, is extremely difficult, and almost impracticable. A celebrated poet has finely described this class of unhappy beings in the following lines:

"Then look'd, and saw a lazy lolling
 sort,
 Unseen at church, at senate, or at court,
 Of ever listless loiterers, that attend
 No cause, no trust, no duty, and no
 friend.
 There too, my Paridell she mark'd
 thee there,
 Stretch'd on the rack of a too easy
 chair,
 And heard thy everlasting yawn confess
 The pains and penalties of idleness."

"To preserve the proper strength both of the body and the mind, labour must be regularly and seasonably mingled with rest. Each of them require their suited exercises and relaxations. Philosophers who aim at the attainment of every superior excellency, do not indulge themselves in ease, and securely and indolently wait for the cruelties of fortune to attack them in their retirement, but, for fear she should surprise them in the state of inexperienced and raw soldiers, undis-

ciplined for the battle, they fall out to meet her, and put themselves into regular training, and even upon the proof of hardships. Those only who observe a proper interchange of exercise and rest, can expect to enjoy health of body or cheerfulness of mind. It is the only means by which the economy of the human frame can be regularly preserved.

"He, therefore, who does not possess sufficient activity to keep the body and mind in proper exercise; he who is unacquainted with the art of varying his amusements, of changing the subjects of his contemplation, and of finding within himself all the materials of enjoyment, will soon feel solitude not only burdensome, but insupportable. To such a character, solitude will not only be disagreeable, but dangerous; for the moment the temporary passion which draws him from society has subsided, he will sink into languor and indifference; and this temper is always unfavourable to moral sentiment. The world, perhaps, with all its disadvantages, is less likely to be injurious to such a man, than the calm and silent shades of unenjoyed retirement.

"Solitude also, particularly when carried to an extreme, is apt to render the character of the recluse rigid, austere, and inflexible, and, of course, unsuited to the enjoyments of society. The notions he contracts are as singular and abstracted as his situation; he adheres to them with inflexible pertinacity; his mind moves only in the accustomed track; he cherishes his preconceived errors and prejudices with fond attachment, and despises those whose sentiments are contrary to his own. A promiscuous intercourse with society has the effect of rendering the mind docile, and his judgment of men and things correct; for in the world every subject is closely examined, every question critically discussed; and, while the spirit of controversy and opposition elicits truth, the mind is led into a train of rational investigation, and its powers strengthened and enlarged; but the mind of the recluse being uninterruptedly confined to its own course of reasoning, and to the habit of viewing objects on one side, it is unable to appreciate the respective weights which different arguments may deserve, or to judge in doubtful cases, on which side truth is most likely to be found. A commixture of different

ferent opinions on any particular subject, provokes a free and liberal discussion of it, an advantage which the prepossessions engendered by solitude uniformly prevent." *P. 107.*

"Learning and wisdom, however they may be confounded by arrogant and self-conceited scholars, are in no respect synonymous terms; but, on the contrary, are not unfrequently quite at variance with each other. The high admiration which scholars are too apt to entertain of the excellency of their own talents, and the vast importance they generally ascribe to their own characters and merit, instead of producing that sound judgment upon men and things which constitutes true wisdom, only engenders an effervescence in the imagination, the effect of which is in general the most frothy folly. Many of those who thus pride themselves on the pursuits of literature, have nothing to boast of but an indefatigable attention to some idle and unprofitable study; a study which, perhaps, only tends to contract the feelings of the heart, and impoverish the powers of the mind. True wisdom, and genuine virtue, are the produce of those enlarged views which arise from a general and comprehensive knowledge both of books and men: but scholars who confine their attention entirely to books, and feel no interest or concern for the world, despise every object that does not lie within the range of their respective studies. By poring over obsolete works, they acquire sentiments quite foreign to the manners of the age in which they live; form opinions as ridiculous as they are unfashionable; fabricate systems incomprehensible to the rest of mankind; and maintain arguments so offensive and absurd, that whenever they venture to display their acquirements in society, they are, like the bird of night, hooted back with derision into their daily obscurity. Many studious characters are so puffed up by arrogance, presumption, self-conceit, and vanity, that they can scarcely speak upon any subject without hurting the feelings of their friends, and giving cause of triumph to their enemies. The counsel and instruction they affect to give, is so mixed with ostentatious pedantry, that they destroy the very end they wish to promote; and instead of acquiring honourable approbation, cover themselves with merited disgrace.

Plato, the illustrious chief of the Academic sect of Athenian philosophers, was so totally free from this vice of inferior minds, that it was impossible to discover in him, by ordinary and casual conversation, that sublime imagination, and almost divine intellect, which rendered him the idol of his age, and the admiration of succeeding generations. On his return from Syracuse, to which place he had been invited by Dionysius the younger, he visited Olympia, to be present at the performance of the Olympic games; and he was placed on the seat appropriated to foreigners of the highest distinction, but to whom he was not personally known. Some of them were so pleased with the ease, politeness, wisdom, and vivacity of his conversation, that they accompanied him to Athens, and, on their arrival in that city, requested him to procure them an interview with Plato. But how pleasing and satisfactory was their surprise, when on his replying with a smile, 'I am the person whom you wish to see,' they discovered that this affable and entertaining companion, with whom they had travelled without discerning his excellency, was the most learned and profound philosopher at that time existing in the world! The studious and retired life of this extraordinary character had not decreased his urbanity and politeness, nor deprived him of the exercise of those easy and seducing manners which so entirely engage the affection and win the heart. He wisely prevented seclusion from robbing him of that amenity and unassuming ease so necessary to the enjoyment of society. Like those two eminent philosophers of the present day, the wise Mendelssohn and the amiable Garve, he derived from solitude all the benefits it is capable of conferring, without suffering any of those injuries which it too frequently inflicts on less powerful minds.

"Culpable, however, as studious characters in general are, by neglecting to cultivate that social address, and to observe that civility of manners, and urbane attention, which an intercourse not only with the world, but even with private society, so indispensably requires, certain it is, that men of fashion expect from them a more refined good breeding, and a nicer attention to the forms of politeness, than all their endeavours can produce. The

fashionable world, indeed, are blameable for their constant attempts to deride the awkwardness of their more erudite and abstracted companions. The severity with which they treat the defective manners of a scholastic visitor, is a violation of the first rules of true politeness, which consists entirely of a happy combination of good sense and good nature, both of which dictate a different conduct, and induce rather a friendly concealment than a triumphant exposure of such venial failings. The inexperienced scholastic is entitled to indulgence, for he cannot be expected nicely to practise customs which he has had no opportunity to learn. To the eye of polished life, his austerity, his reserve, his mistakes, his indecorums, may perhaps appear ridiculous; but to expose him to derision on this subject, is destructive to the general interests of society, inasmuch as it tends to repress and damp endeavours to please. How is it possible that men who devote the greater portion of their time to the solitary and abstracted pursuits of literature, can possess that promptitude of thought, that vivacity of expression, those easy manners, and that varying humour, which prevail so agreeably in mixed society, and which can only be acquired by a constant intercourse with the world? It was not only cruel, but unjust, of the Swedish courtiers to divert themselves with the confusion and embarrassments into which Meibom and Naude, two celebrated writers on the Music and Dances of the ancients, were thrown, when the celebrated Christina desired the one to sing and the other to dance in public for the entertainment of the court. Still less excusable were those imps of fashion in France, who exposed the celebrated mathematician Nicole to the derision of a large company for the misapplication of a word. A fashionable female at Paris having heard that Nicole, who had then lately written a profound and highly approved treatise on the doctrine of curves, was greatly celebrated in all the circles of science,

and affecting to be thought the patroness and intimate of all persons of distinguished merit, sent him such an invitation to one of her parties, that he could not refuse to accept of. The abstracted geometrician, who had never before been present at an assembly of the kind, received the civilities of his fair hostess, and her illustrious friends, with all the awkwardness and confusion which such a scene must naturally create. After passing an uncomfortable evening in answering the observations of those who addressed him, in which he experienced much greater difficulties than he would have found in solving the most intricate problem, he prepared to take his leave, and pouring out a profusion of declarations to the lady of the house, of the grateful sense he entertained of the high honour she had conferred on him by her generous invitation, distinguishing attention, polite regard, and extraordinary civility, rose to the climax of his compliments, by assuring her that the *lovely little eyes of his fair entertainer had made an impression which could never be erased from his breast*, and immediately departed. But a kind friend, who was accompanying him home, whispered in his ear, as they were passing to the stairs, that he had paid the lady a very ill compliment, by telling her that her eyes were little, for that little eyes were universally understood by the whole sex to be a great defect. Nicole, mortified to an extreme by the mistake he had thus innocently made, and resolving to apologize to the lady, whom he conceived he had offended, returned abruptly to the company, and entreated her, with great humility, to pardon the error into which his confusion had betrayed him, of imputing any thing like *littleness* to so high, so elegant, so distinguished a character, declaring that he had never beheld *such fine large eyes, such fine large lips, such fine large hands, or so fine and large a person altogether*, in the whole course of his life." B. 1. 19.

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